FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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22 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD221348 [Editorial Report]

Al-Shariqah Leadership Crisis

In a statement broadcast by Abu Dhabi radio 20 June, the UAE Supreme Council announced its decision to reinstate Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi as ruler of Al-Shariqah, and to appoint his brother Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz as the emirate's heir apparent. The decision was taken at a third session of the ongoing Supreme Council extraordinary meeting, chaired by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

Shaykh Sultan expressed thanks for Shaykh Zayid's efforts in a statement over Dubayy television cited by WAKH. He later attended a 21 June Supreme Council session in Al-'Ayn and held talks with the UAE defense minister in Dubayy, WAKH noted. "Informed sources" cited by Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* predicted that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz will not accept the decision to reinstate Shaykh Sultan. A 22 June Radio Monte Carlo report noted that 'Abd al-'Aziz remained at the Al-Shariqah Government House, where security has been strengthened, adding that he is demanding "radical changes" in the emirate's administration in order to save the local economy. 'Abd al-'Aziz had earlier told *Al-Qabas* of his intention to stop expensive projects in order to reduce the debt problem, and he said Shaykh Sultan will be allowed to return but will not be allowed to dispose of the emirate's funds.

The amirs of Kuwait and Qatar both telephoned Shaykh Zayid over the weekend to inquire about the situation in Al-Shariqah, according to Dubayy radio and QNA. PDRY leader Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas also telephoned the UAE president for the same purpose, Aden radio reported. QNA noted that Al-Shariqah international airport reopened 21 June and that the local paper *Al-Khalij* resumed publication.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Attack on Tanker — Kuwait "rejected" Iran's "allegation" that a 20 June Iraqi attack on a tanker off the Iranian coast was carried out with Kuwaiti assistance, KUNA reported. The statement followed a Tehran radio interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi in which Musavi made the assertion "based on evidence." Kuwait and Iraq planned the resumption of attacks on shipping in the Gulf to pave the way for a U.S. presence there, the minister contended. In remarks cited by IRNA, the Revolution Guards naval commander warned Kuwait that his forces could impose a blockade on the shaykhdom. He said Iran cannot ignore Kuwait's "obvious military collaborations" with Iraq.

Iraq had announced the tanker attack in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, saying that Iraqi aircraft hit a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast south of Khark Island. Iraq also launched a "violent raid" on Khark Island, dealing "devastating blows" to the southern jetty. Iraq will continue to strike economic targets inside Iran and will use "new means and weapons," the Iraqi air force and air defenses commander asserted in a statement cited by INA. The attacks were halted for "studied purposes" and to take Iran "by surprise," and strikes like the latest blow to Khark Island will continue once Iran has had "sufficient opportunity" to consider the prospect of having all its economic facilities destroyed.

Elsewhere in the Gulf, a Swedish-chartered tanker sustained some damage when it hit a mine off the coast of Kuwait, Stockholm radio reported. The mine was said to be Iranian.

Fighting in North — Iran's 21 June "Nasr-4" operations in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province resulted in 3,000 Iraqi dead or wounded and 400 Iraqi prisoners of war, IRNA announced. About 60 square km of Iraqi territory including 15 Iraqi villages were "liberated," and three strategic heights captured in the action launched in retalliation for Iraq's resumption of attacks on commercial ships in the Gulf. IRNA also reported that Iran shot down an Iraqi plane over the operational theater, but an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied this, saying all Iraqi planes had returned safely to their bases. In another statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman refuted Iranian "lies" about fighting in northern Iraq, saying the situation is stable in all border villages and townships in the area. The spokesman added that Iran is only trying to cover up the "large-scale" operations being carried out against the Iranian regime by opposition factions and Kurds as well as to distract attention from the newly formed Iranian National Liberation Army.

In earlier fighting, IRNA reported 1,000 Iraqi casualties in 17 June "Nasr-3" operations near Zubaydah, in Iraq. However, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA said Iran "faced a new grave defeat" in its 17 June attack, when "thousands" of its soldiers were killed or wounded east of Maysan.

National Liberation Army — Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi announced the formation of the Iranian National Liberation Army with the goal of toppling the Khomeyni regime, INA reported. Meanwhile, according to ANSA, another Mojahedin spokesman anounced the formation of a clandestine army inside Iran to carry out urban warfare and insurrection "at home."

Turkey

"Bandits" who massacred 30 citizens near Mardin 20 June will not go unpunished, President Kenan Evren asserted in an address broadcast by Ankara radio. He said the bandits had raided a sleeping village, setting houses on fire and killing men, women, and children indiscriminately. Evren contended that the killers were encouraged to carry out such acts by a European Parliament resolution that includes "an article concerning the bandits." As for the problems facing the security forces in tracking down the Kurdish separatists, the president acknowledged that it is currently impossible for Turkey to close its borders with Iran and Iraq, which cannot control their borders, and he indicated that the problem can only be solved when the Iran-Iraq war ends.

In other comment cited by Ankara radio, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal viewed the massacre as "the last flutter of an expiring movement" and said the authorities have information that the "bandits" are attacking villages because they are hungry. However, opposition party leaders criticized the government's handling of the security problem in southeast Turkey.

Lebanon

Glass Kidnapping — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has ordered the Syrian command in Lebanon to intensify efforts to secure the release of Charles Glass, 'Adil 'Usayran, and their driver, Beirut radio reported. The radio noted that Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran was informed of Al-Asad's order in a 20 June telephone conversation with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who was speaking on Al-Asad's behalf because of the latter's absence from Damascus. The head of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon subsequently informed Shi'ite cleric Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah that Al-Asad is taking a close interest in the kidnapping and attaches considerable importance to the issue, the radio disclosed.

According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the Syrians warned Hizballah that they will use force to secure the hostages' release, but Hizballah said it cannot guarantee the U.S. hostage's life in this event. The radio also reported that the kidnappers made the release of Glass and 'Usayran conditional on an FRG pledge not to extradite Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah to the United States. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said Hizballah has informed the Syrians that the U.S. journalist's fate is now similar to that of the other hostages. Meanwhile, Hizballah denied any connection with the kidnapping, Voice of National Resistance radio noted.

In another hostage development, the "Oppressed on Earth" organization announced the execution of one of its Lebanese Jewish hostages, Voice of Lebanon radio revealed.

Investigator's Resignation — Munif 'Uwaydat, public prosecutor of the Beirut appeals court, announced his resignation from the Karami assassination inquiry in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio 20 June. He said he was resigning from the post of judicial investigator in the case because "certain media" issued statements casting doubt on his integrity. 'Uwaydat stressed that he did not meet with any procrastination or obstruction during the inquiry.

Syria

Al-Asad Health — Despite a 20 June Voice of Lebanon report that President Al-Asad has fallen ill, Damascus radio noted that he received a Lebanon delegation the following day.

USSR Relations — Soviet official Konstantin Katushev stressed the "positive and fruitful" results of his 5-day visit to Syria, noting that agreements were reached on the construction of a hydroelectric complex and on oil cooperation, Damascus radio reported.

Iranian Visit — An agreement signed in Damascus calls for increased bilateral trade and industry and investment cooperation, IRNA reported 19 June. The agreement was signed at the end of a joint commission session attended by the Iranian ministers of commerce and finance and industry. The ministers termed the session a "turning point" in the two countries' economic relations.

While he was in Damascus the Iranian commerce minister met with Konstantin Katushev to review an Iranian-Soviet letter of understanding, IRNA noted. The two sides expressed readiness to further expand economic relations.

Libya

The Arabs must possess the atomic bomb to defend themselves, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told students in a 21 June lecture broadcast by Tripoli television. He said the atomic bomb is an "essential defensive weapon," stressing that the Arabs should undertake not to use it unless someone threatens "our existence and independence."

Israel-West Bank

In a 19 June press conference reported by *The Jerusalem Post*, the IDF Central Command commander announced that the Shin Bet has arrested a PFLP cell held responsible for the March 1986 murder of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri and for other killings and assassination attempts in 1985-86. The arrest of a PFLP group in connection with Al-Masri's murder puts PLO supporters in Nabulus in an embarrassing situation because PLO leaders have reconciled with the PFLP but have also promised to avenge the mayor's killing, *The Post* pointed out.

In another development, Radio Monte Carlo reported that the PFLP claimed responsibility for a weekend arson attack on cars belonging to *Al-Fajr* editor Hanna Sinyurah, noting that the PFLP said the operation was a reply to Sinyurah's "suspect" statements. Reacting to the burning of his two cars, Sinyurah told IDF radio that he still intends to run in the Jerusalem municipal elections.

DRA

An additional 275 prisoners were released from the Pol-e Charkhi prison under an amnesty decree, *Bakhtar* noted 18 June.

Jordanian Sources Anticipate Iraqi-Syrian Summit

JN190658 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
17 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Amman — Jordanian political sources have told *Al-Ittihad* that all of the developments taking place between Syria and Iraq indicate that the Iraqi and Syrian presidents will hold a public summit. This has developed in light of the decisive and extremely important meeting scheduled to be held very soon between Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' in the same area on the Jordanian-Syrian-Iraqi border where the Al-Asad-Saddam meeting was held on 26 April.

Al-Ittihad has learned that the Jordanian monarch stressed to Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm during the latter's recent visit to Jordan that the time is now more favorable than ever to improve relations between Damascus and Baghdad. He added that such an improvement will not serve the interests of Iraq alone but also the interests of all the Gulf states. He said that this is true in view of the fact that the situation in the Gulf region has become a source of anxiety for all Arabs. The Jordanian monarch also emphasized that the failure to bring about Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation under the present critical circumstances will mean failure for the current Arab efforts being made to resolve the Middle East crisis.

It appears that Syria is fully convinced by the Jordanian argument. Arab and Gulf countries also support Jordan's policy. Damascus, however, is still looking for a convincing end to the estrangement with Baghdad. Such a situation will not last long, particularly when the Iranian leaders know the results of the attempts to bring about Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation.

'Arafat Awaiting Mediation To Visit Syria

NC192125 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The *Central News Agency* cites Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut as saying that Damascus extended an invitation to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to visit Syria 15 days ago. The sources add that 'Arafat is attempting to learn the results of Jordan's mediation efforts between Syria and Iraq before accepting the invitation.

PLO Executive Committee Issues Statement
JN201807 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Jun 87

["Text" of statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee after its meeting in Baghdad from 16-18 June 1987; date not given]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee met in Baghdad from 16-18 June 1987. During these meetings, the committee reviewed the Palestinian situation, particularly in Lebanon and the occupied homeland. It also discussed Palestinian-Arab relations and Palestinian-international relations. The Executive Committee's moves with respect to these relations were also reviewed. The situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, particularly in Shatila, Burj al-Barajinah, and Al-Rashidiyah, was among the first and most important topics discussed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee was appalled by the continued siege of the camps.The intent of this siege is to kill the inhabitants of the camps or to make them homeless. Another part of this strategy is to prevent UNRWA, the Red Crescent, and the Red Cross from carrying out their humanitarian work and giving relief and medical care to our kinfolk, children, and women. This becomes particularly critical as the siege continues while Israeli air raids are being launched almost daily against our people's camps in southern Lebanon. This clearly exposes the continuation of the multifaceted and multipurpose plot against Palestinian refugee camps and their inhabitants. Food, water, medicine, and the necessities of life are being witheld from the camps.

The PLO takes pride in the steadfastness of its people and their heroism in the steadfast camps. This is a steadfastness that has become a source of pride for all Palestinians and Arabs. It gives our people greater self-confidence. It inspires them with greater determination to continue their glorious struggle. Our people in the camps affirm that they will take every measure to secure the needs for steadfastness in the face of all the enemies of our people and Arab nation. At the same time, the PLO Executive Committee holds the Arab parties concerned responsible for remaining silent about the conspiracy of death against the Palestinian people in Lebanon. The committee calls on the Arab masses and their national forces to act to stop the ugly and criminal conspiracy against our people, women, and children.

The PLO Executive Committee views the abrogation of the Cairo agreement between the PLO and the legitimate Lebanese authorities under the supervision of late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir — an agreement endorsed by successive Arab summits — as another link in the chain of encirclement around our people in Lebanon and around the PLO. The Executive Committee cannot view the abrogation separately from the entire plot against the Palestinian cause. This plot aims to attack and liquidate the Palestinian national cause. This is particularly evident as the abrogation coincides with the current Zionist aggression in southern Lebanon against our camps and people. In addition, the Zionists are conducting another campaign in the lobbies of the U.S. Congress against the PLO. The Lebanese decision to abrogate the agreement came at a time when Palestinian leaders were carrying out direct and indirect contacts with the legitimate Lebanese authorities. These contacts were intended to resolve the matter within the framework of the circumstances and developments that arose in Lebanon following the departure of the Palestinian leaders in 1982.

The PLO regrets the decision to abrogate the agreement. It was made at a time when the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples were subjected to Israeli aggression on a daily basis. Meanwhile,Israel continues to occupy Lebanese territory — and that in itself makes it necessary to strengthen Lebanese-Palestinian relations to confront the common aggression. The PLO reiterates its concern for Lebanon's freedom, unity, and sovereignty. It reaffirms that the Cairo agreement was more than just an agreement between two official Arab parties that are members of the Arab League. This fact, by the way, makes it necessary for the two parties to discuss the matter before either embarks on unilateral action. Moreover, this agreement was also endorsed by subsequent Arab summits. Thus, the agreement is an Arab agreement and not only a Palestinian-Lebanese agreement. Consequently, it can only be tackled within a pan-Arab framework.

It is regrettable that the ugly plot should go as far as coupling the decision on the Palestinian-Lebanese and pan-Arab relationship with the decision to abrogate the 17 May agreement with the Zionist enemy. This exposes the magnitude and objectives of the plot. In any case, the PLO is determined to hold on to the rights of its people in Lebanon. These rights include residence privileges, freedom of movement, and work, guaranteed freedom of the camps, and freedom to struggle for our sacred cause. The PLO is determined to defend its people's rights and the Palestinian camps and their inhabitants. It will confront the aggression against our people with all available means. At the same time, the PLO appeals to all national Lebanese and Arab forces to support it in resisting and confronting the new link in the plot.

The PLO Executive Committee also discussed in detail the situation in the occupied homeland. Also reviewed was the repression and persecution by the Zionist occupiers against our people in their camps, towns, and villages. This coincides with actions against our people in our camps in Lebanon. The committee salutes our people's steadfastness in the occupied homeland. It expresses its great pride in their splendid, continuous popular uprising in the face of occupiers. This uprising gives a bright example of the revolutionary will of our people and masses. It also illustrates their heroic deeds. The uprising showcases the determination of these militant revolutionary masses to continue struggling until the occupation is defeated and our occupied land is liberated. The Executive Committee stresses that it will spare no effort to provide all requirements of steadfastness and resistance both inside and outside the occupied homeland. It will do so in order to escalate struggle using all its popular and armed forms. At the same time, the Executive Committee greets and is proud of those who are standing fast on the soil of our beloved homeland, Palestine. They are defying with their steel revolutionary will the systematic Israeli terrorism and the Zionist gangs of armed settlers. These people are also confronting the Fascist gangs of Kahane, Levinger, Sharon, and (Hatihya), which are protected by the Israeli Army.

One particular example is what happened against our kinfolk in the Al-Duhayshah camp, in Balatah, in Qalqilyah, and in Rafah. Another example is what took place against our schools and

universities in Nabulus, Bi'r Zayt, Jerusalem, Gaza, Bethlehem, and Hebron. The continued attacks against our sanctities and the criminal attempts to Judaize them provide still further evidence. Hence, the Executive Committee calls on our Arab nation, with its masses, forces, and states, to carry out serious, unified, and constructive action. In this way, our nation can confront this Zionist onslaught and liberate the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands. This is especially necessary since our Arab nation is facing serious, great, and historical responsibilities following the passage of 40 years since the issuance of the resolution to partition Palestine and the passage of 20 years since the June aggression of 1967. The Executive Committee also urges world public opinion, international bodies, and all countries to support the Palestinian people's just struggle for the sake of their national rights. These are the right to repatriation, to self-determination, and to an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

The Executive Committee reviewed the moves, visits, and meetings held by its chairman and a number of its members in Arab and international arenas. The committee stressed that moves and action should be continued in the Arab world to rectify Palestinian-Arab relations. These actions would pool Arab efforts and achieve Arab solidarity on the Palestine question. This is the Arab nation's central cause. Meanwhile, the committee emphasized the importance of escalating popular resistance along with our nationalist Lebanese allies against the Israeli occupation. This resistance should be escalated whether inside our occupied territory or in southern Lebanon. The committee also stressed the need to provide the necessary capabilities to this growing Palestinian resistance. The committee decided to continue moves in the international arena to enhance support for the Palestinian people's national rights. It will also continue to enlist support for holding an international conference to tackle the Middle East conflict with the five permanent UN Security Council member states present. Also participating would be the parties concerned in the conflict. This includes the PLO on the basis of UN resolutions related to the Palestine question and the Middle East issue. More than ever, this requires continuous action on all levels to achieve a unified Arab stand on these developments, challenges, and moves.

O masses of our Palestinian and Arab peoples, the road of struggle is hard and long but our people have the will to overcome all difficulties and confront all challenges. Our people have been pursuing struggle for more than half a century. They have given bright examples of heroism and sacrifices. They are able to continue the march with the same militant spirit they have enjoyed throughout the heroic years of struggle. The PLO, relying on the unity of its people and their rallying around it, pledges to its Palestinian and Arab peoples it will continue to fly high the banner of struggle until victory. The day of victory is close, God willing. Revolution until victory.

Hani al-Hasan 'Unauthorized' To Speak for PLO

JN201839 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] A spokesman for the PLO Executive Committee yesterday stated the following:

We were surprised by statements attributed to Brother Hani al-Hasan about certain developments regarding the Budapest meeting. The Executive Committee would like to affirm that Brother Hani al-Hasan is unauthorized to make such statements on behalf of the PLO.

PFLP Claims Responsibility for Sinyurah Operation

JN211258 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1208 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] In Damascus, the PFLP has issued a statement claiming responsibility for setting fire to cars belonging to Hanna Sinyurah, editor in chief of the *Al-Fajr* newspaper. The PFLP statement said that this operation is a reply to Sinyurah's suspect statements. It is also a warning to him and his collaborators. The statement added that, if Sinyurah does not desist from making such statements and does not return to the course of Palestinian nationalism, he will be referred to the people's courts.

SAARC Foreign Ministers Meeting Continues

Sri Lanka on Bilateral Disputes

BK191138 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Sri Lanka has proposed that SAARC adopt a convention bidding its seven member-nations to respect one another's independence and sovereignty. A convention of this nature is the prime need of the hour, Sri Lanka's foreign minister, A.C.S. Hameed, told SAARC colleagues at a 2-day meeting which began yesterday in New Delhi.

Mr Hameed quoted past speeches by SAARC leaders referring to the need for respect for one another's territorial integrity to remove traditional mistrust and tensions between SAARC members. Mr Hameed also suggested that discussions on bilateral disputes be allowed at SAARC which groups Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Tiwari Sees Off Yaqub Khan

BK191326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left for home this afternoon after attending the SAARC foreign ministers' meeting. He was seen off at the airport by the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari.

Next Summit in Kathmandu 2-4 Nov

BK191634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Foreign ministers of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation have decided to convene a group of legal experts of member countries to prepare a draft regional convention on terrorism. The 2-day meeting ended in New Delhi today after accepting the recommendations of the experts group on terrorism. [passage omitted]

The ministerial meeting gave concrete shape to new programs to bring the people of South Asia closer. A final document adopted by the SAARC Council of Ministers has recommended to the heads of state and government that the Kathmandu summit be held from the 2d to the 4th of November this year. The ministers decided to establish a South Asian food security reserve and designated a SAARC Secretariat to look after its work. They were of the view that the proposal for the establishment of a multisectoral investment institutiion needs further consideration.

The ministers also endorsed the recommendations of the standing committee on sharing the costs of regional institutions. Our correspondent says the ministerial meeting provided an opportunity to the seven member nations — Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and India — to exchange views on matters of regional cooperation. Our correspondent adds that India has always taken a consistent stand that bilateral and contentious issues cannot be raised at the SAARC forum. Such a move will go against the SAARC charter.

Cairo, Amman Consult on Leaders' Visits to U.S.

PM220823 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 16 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar report: "Contacts Between Cairo and Amman To Agree on Dates of Mubarak and Husayn Visits to Washington"]

[Text] Constant contacts are currently being maintained between Cairo and Amman to agree on the dates and objectives of King Husayn's and President Husni Mubarak's upcoming visits to Washington this year. Last week President Mubarak made a lightning visit to Jordan as head of a large delegation that included Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

Discussion during consultations with Jordanian officials focused on how to end the Iran-Iraq war, promote the Middle East peace process, and exploit the superpowers' desire to interfere in the Arab Gulf. Last week President Mubarak also met with U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Frank Wisner and discussed arrangements concerning his upcoming visit to Washington.

President Husni Mubarak previously had postponed a visit to Washington, scheduled for last February, amid tension in Egyptian-U.S. relations after the U.S. Congress decided to suspend financial aid to Egypt totaling $110 million. *Al-Wafd* has learned that Egypt recently presented specific requests to the U.S. Administration, primarily for more grants than loans in the new budget, for a portion of military aid used to purchase advanced weapons needed by Egypt's Armed Forces to be in the form of grants, as is the case for Israel, and for payable checks to be used to cover outstanding amounts of previous programs that were not implemented in order to maintain monetary liquidity, to finance some aspects of the second 5-year plan, and to help deal with the balance of payments deficit. *Al-Wafd* has learned that the U.S. Administration recently promised to seek from Congress Egypt's exemption from the regulation stipulating that U.S. aid must be suspended to states not meeting their scheduled debt installments. Egypt is currently trying to reschedule its $4.5 billion arms debt accumulated during 1978-83.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan is expected to respond to all Egyptian-Jordanian terms in return for Jordan's agreement to bilateral negotiations with Israel to expedite the Middle East peace process before the U.S. presidential election next January [as published].

Mubarak on Foreign Ties, Security Situation

NC201418 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jun (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has affirmed that Egypt's foreign policy and relations with the superpowers are governed by the principles of mutual respect and respect for national dignity and sovereignty. These principles are in the interests of Egypt. The president said that the results of Egypt's foreign policy can be seen in the outside support the nation has received in contending with its economic problems. This was declared by Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif following President Mubarak's 4-hour meeting with the NDP parliamentary group last night.

The minister of information stated that during the meeting, the president reviewed Egypt's policies with regard to the Palestinian issue and the Iraq-Iran war. Mubarak affirmed that Egyptian-Arab relations are good and noted his contacts with his brothers, the heads of state of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, the UAE, Oman, Iraq, and Somalia. The president also praised Egypt's relations with Africa and referred to the African nations' support for Egypt within international organizations. He expressed appreciation and respect for the positive policies adopted by African leaders toward Egypt.

The information minister continued: The president praised Egypt's security officials, claiming that they have made sacrifices to maintain security and stability. He noted that they have been subjected to attacks since 1981, with scores of them sustaining injuries. He asserted that they risk their lives daily so that every Egyptian can know that he, his family, his earnings, his land, and his property are safe. The president said: We must support and trust our security organizations since they strive to preserve Egypt's security, stability, and achievements.

We must not link terrorism to religion, Mubarak affirmed, because Islam renounces terrorism and bloodshed. He stressed that the Egyptian people are noble and reject violence, which is contrary to their nature, character, and values. The president explained that violence is a foreign phenomenon and that the Egyptian people are wise and compassionate in rejecting aggression. President Mubarak noted that the nation is not untouched by what is happening in the world or unaware of radical movements in numerous countries. He stated: We thank God that events in Egypt cannot compare with those occurring elsewhere today.

USSR 'Experts' To Help With Economic Projects

PM220831 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 17 Jun 87 p 1

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar Report: "Russian Experts Are Coming to Egypt Before the End of the Year!"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that the Egyptian Government will contract 500 Soviet heavy industry experts to assist Egyptian technicians in implementing and operating the joint projects agreed upon last April. Foremost among these projects are the expansion and modernization of steel plants, the aluminium complex at Naj' Hammadi, and establishing a factory for coke coal production in Hulwan. The Soviet Union will finance these projects worth approximately $100 million dollars by providing interest-free loans as part of a huge aid program recently agreed upon to assist Egypt economically. Over the last 2 years Egypt has employed nearly 120 Soviet technical experts in the energy, electricity, and steel industries. President Mubarak yesterday met with the members of the Soviet delegation currently visiting Egypt, led by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The meeting dealt with recent international political developments and the Soviet view on solving international disputes in the Arabian Gulf and the Middle East. The Soviet delegation clarified the next stage of the Soviet Union's internal and foreign policies, as well as ways to

strengthen Egyptian-Soviet relations and restore them to their pre-1974 level.

The Soviet delegation departed Cairo yesterday for Damascus, where it will hold similar talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and conclude a tour that included Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Egypt, and Syria. Two nights ago, the Soviet delegation held a news conference during which it was stressed that recent developments in Egyptian-Soviet relations are not at the expense of Egypt's relations with the United States. The Soviet delegation demanded that relations between Cairo and Moscow be normalized in all fields to benefit both countries, as well as peace in the Middle East. The Soviet delegation also stressed the need for Arab ranks to be united to confront Israeli schemes and to exploit the Arabs' enormous human and material resources. Arnold Ryuytel indicated that it would be impossible to solve the Middle East problem without the participation of all parties concerned. He denied recent reports by Western media on the Soviet Union's intention to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. As for the Gulf war situation, Ryuytel stated that the Soviet Union possesses all capabilities and means to guarantee freedom of navigation in the Arabian Gulf.

Only 300 'Experts' Said Needed

JN211438 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
19 Jun 87 p 16

[Text] Cairo — Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, the Egyptian minister of industry, has announced that contracts with a number of Soviet experts to work on projects in Egypt come under the trade protocol the two nations signed in March of this year. This protocol defines trade and industrial relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union for 1987.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ittihad*, the Egyptian minister said that seeking the help of Soviet civilian experts is not a new step. Technical and technological cooperation between the two countries has continued despite the "lukewarm" political relations that have prevailed between Cairo and Egypt for some time. He added that the two countries are cooperating on some major projects such as an iron and steel complex, an aluminum complex, and electricity and energy projects.

He stressed that it was only natural to seek the help of a larger number of Soviets following the current expansion of projects carried out in cooperation with Soviet expertise, especially since the funds assigned to these amount to $160 million.

The Egyptian minister of industry stated that the number of Soviet experts working on the new industrial expansion projects will not exceed 300 (and not 500 experts as the opposition paper *Al-Wafd* reported). He added that these projects are being carried out with a long-term Soviet loan at very low interest. The trade protocol provides Egypt's private sector with an opportunity to export goods such as furniture, textiles, and ready-made clothes to the Soviet Union after these exports were suspended in the 1970's.

Interior Minister Badr on Release of Detainees

JN191131 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
16 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — In a statement to *Al-Ittihad*, Major General Zaki Badr, Egyptian minister of interior, said that a second group of persons detained in connection with recent attempts to assassinate former Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha, three U.S. diplomats, and Makram Muhammad Ahmad, chairman of the Al-Hilal Publishing House's board of directors, were released yesterday.

The minister of interior stated that investigations had revealed that all who were released had not been involved in any of the three cases. He said that the decision to release 100 detainees was made yesterday, 15 June, and that 150 other people had been released on Sunday, 14 June.

Al-Ittihad had earlier learned that 10 detainees from the Nasirite organization were released yesterday evening. These persons include journalist Ahmadayn Sabahi, Kamal Abu 'Aytah, and Amir Iskandar.

Mubarak Telephones UAE President 20 Jun

NC210500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2157 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jun (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak telephoned the UAE president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayan, this evening. President Mubarak was assured that the UAE's situation is stable. The president stressed his support for the solidity of the Arab people's unity with the fraternal UAE.

Ugandan President Stops Over, Meets With Mubarak

NC191555 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and his wife departed Cairo for home this afternoon following brief talks with President Mubarak. The meeting, which lasted approximately 40 minutes, was held at Cairo International Airport.

The Ugandan president and his wife were seen off by President and Mrs Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, reported that the meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Museveni was a continuation of the talks they had held a few days ago, when President Museveni stopped over in Cairo on his way to Belgrade. Dr Ghali disclosed that the meeting had focused on bilateral cooperation and diplomatic coordination in connection with the next African summit, scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa next July.

The minister of state for foreign affairs added that Egypt will send a group of experts and technical teams to Uganda at the end of June to hold talks with Ugandan officials on a number of joint projects.

NDP Head Terms Nomination of Mubarak 'Vital'

NC220730 Cairo MENA in English 0715 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, Jun 22 (MENA) — *"Al-Akhbar"* and *"Al-Jumhuriyah"* lead with a story on the nomination of President Husni Mubarak for a second term, while *"Al-Ahram"* leads with the statement given by the minister of interior at the People's Assembly yesterday on the number of detainees involved in the recent violent acts, and the policy of the Ministry of Interior to handle the extremist groups and the ways to maintain the security of the country.

Nomination for the presidency will be open next month and referendum in this regard will be held in October, the paper says.

This was announced by Dr Yusuf Wali, secretary general of the NDP and deputy premier and minister of agriculture.

"The nomination of Mubarak is vital in order to further deepen democratic practices and to ensure the continuity of development in Egypt. It is also vital for the maintenance of the country's stability", Dr Wali said in press statements yesterday.

President Announces State Employees' Pay Raises

NC192131 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jun (MENA) — At a meeting of the NDP parliamentary group this evening, President Husni Mubarak announced that state and public sector employees will receive a 20-percent tax-free increase in salaries and pensions. The increment will be calculated on the basis of actual amounts received on 30 June 1987.

President Mubarak said that this measure will cost the state 850 million pounds annually. Of this amount, 600 million pounds will apply to state and public sector employees' raises, and 250 million pounds will go to increased pensions.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Further Reportage on Sharjah Leadership Crisis

New Ruler on Brother's Role

JN191221 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1134 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jun (INA) — Three Kuwaiti newspapers have highlighted statements made by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, the new Sharjah ruler. The newspaper *Al-Qabas* cited the new ruler as saying that his brother Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, the former ruler of Sharjah, was ousted from ruling the emirate instead of abdicating, and that the family forced his ouster. Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi added that he will allow his brother to enter the emirate but will not allow him to dispose of its funds, that his private funds have not been placed in lien, and that there is a financial manager who manages them.

Commenting on the strict stand of the Dubai Emirate toward what took place in Sharjah, he said: In fact, I do not know the Dubai Emirate's stand, but matters will become clearer in the future. He added: There are orders for the Army to open fire on anyone who tries to undermine security in the Emirate. As for his own future aspirations, he said: The people want to know their government. During my dealings with citizens, I perceived much about their denied legitimate rights. I then decided to share with the people in building this emirate and in aspiring to a planned future pleasing to the people due to the resources provided by oil revenue. I will give citizens their full rights, be they moral or material rights, even if these rights are few.

Shaykh al-Qasimi told the newspaper *Al-Watan* that he will not abdicate and that he assumed power in Sharjah with the agreement of members of the the ruling family. In an interview with *Al-Watan* yesterday, Shaykh al-Qasimi said: Who would want to assume power while there are 5 billion dirhams in debts?

We chose Shaykh Sultan when he pledged to carry out his duties to serve his country. However, he began to squander funds and spend them on imaginary projects without seeking anyone's advice. He also did not devote his full time to domestic policies but was preoccupied with foreign policy studies.

As for Dubai's stand, he said it wanted to bargain, but we do not accept buying and selling. He said that Dubai expressed its readiness to settle Shaykh Sultan's debts in exchange for his return,but we do not accept anyone interfering in our affairs just as we do not interfere in Dubai's affairs. Dubai says that Dr Sultan is the legitimate ruler. From where does such a legitimacy stem? Does it stem from the family, Dubai, or from the Federal National Council? If legitimacy stems from the family then we are the family.

Al-Siyasah cites Shaykh al-Qasimi as saying that he will not adbicate his responsibilities and that the former ruler can return to Sharjah and live there. He will thus be able to live and let live, for he cannot live while his brother is away from him.

After receiving delegates from the UAE Supreme Council, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qasimi said that the ruling family in Sharjah renewed their allegiance to him. He stated that there is no reason to be concerned about security in the emirate and added that he told envoys of the UAE Supreme Council (who saw with their own eyes the members of the ruling family pledging allegiance to him): You have seen that the family has pledged allegiance to me. Therefore I am the ruler, and that is a custom you know very well, O rulers. Al-Qasimi emphasized that it was the debt crisis that prompted him to act and that he is determined to pay and reschedule these debts.

When answering a question on whether there was motive for his actions, Shaykh Al-Qasimi replied: Since the day my brother Khalid was killed, I nominated my brother Shaykh Sultan and the family supported me in this. We charged him with the task of shouldering responsibility and safeguarding the trust. We did not view him as our younger brother, but instead with him and under his leadership served the emirate. We gave him our full confidence. Within a short time of his rule, he began to overspend and he became extravagant with projects unneeded by the emirate. Despite the fact that he was very aware our revenues were very low, he deliberately spent extravagantly. Time passed and we discovered we were totally removed from interfering in the emirate's affairs. The citizens in Sharjah suffered from this ignorant spending and did not know what was going on in Shaykh Sultan's emirate.

Amiri Guard Protects New Ruler

JN201520 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[By *Al-Qabas* correspondent in Sharjah Husayn 'Abd al-Rahman]

[Excerpt] *Al-Qabas* has learned that Shaykh 'Abd al- 'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi will face his first failure when he chairs the meeting of the new Executive Council of the Emirate of Sharjah. The meeting is scheduled for today at Government House in Sharjah. He will fail because many members of the Executive Council whom he appointed have refused to attend the meeting in solidarity with the ruler of Sharjah who was deposed on 17 June, Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi. He was in London when he was deposed.

The sources said that the meeting will be illegal if there is no quorum. Its decisions will be weak in the absence of many of its members who were heads of government departments in Sharjah during the rule of Shaykh Sultan. In his first decree issued on 18 June, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi reshuffled some department heads. Some of these department heads received and supported Shaykh Sultan during his stay at Al-Jumayrah Guest House in Dubai. These departments will carry on with their work but without their department heads.

Sharjah International Airport, which was closed for 3 days, reopened with a Gulf Air flight which left for Kuwait at 1915 yesterday.

Some informed sources said military preparations have been made at Government House in Sharjah where Shaykh 'Abd

al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi has been staying since 17 June. All the rooms have been filled with ammunition. Members of the Amiri Guard carrying high-velocity rifles have been stationed on the sides of Government House. Other members of the Amiri Guard are behind bags of sand. They are pointing their heavy machineguns toward the main gate of Government House. Some guards are carrying antiaircraft and antitank missile launchers.

However, the sources say resistance by the Amiri Guard to any outside military force will be weak. The Amiri Guard will be unable to defend its positions for very many days. The sources add that units of the Federal UAE Army stationed in the Al-Falah camp in Sharjah on the airport road have not yet left the camp and are awaiting orders. If a confrontation should break out, the Amiri Guard will not be able to resist the Federal Army for long. [Passage omitted]

New Ruler Expects Approval

JN201609 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
19 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[By *Al-Qabas* correspondent in Al-Shariqah Husayn 'Abd al-Rahman]

[Text] Sharjah ruler Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi has said that his brother Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, former ruler of Sharjah, was ousted from ruling the emirate. He further stated that Shaykh Sultan did not abdicate and that the family forced his ouster.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Qabas*, Al-Qasimi added that he will allow his brother to enter the emirate but will not allow him to dispose of its funds. He also said that his private funds have not been placed in lien and that a financial manager is managing his money.

Answering a question about the strict stand of the Dubai Emirate toward what took place in Sharjah, Shaykh 'Abd al- Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi said: In fact, I do not know the stand of the Dubai Emirate but matters will become clearer in the future. He added: The Army has orders to open fire on anyone who tries to undermine security in the emirate.

Regarding his future aspirations, he said: The people want to know their government. During my dealings with citizens I sensed a lot about their denied legitimate rights. That is why I decided to join with the people in building this emirate. I also aspire to a planned future. In view of our oil resources, this will please the people. I will give citizens their full rights, be they moral or material rights, even if such rights are few. However, citizens should be aware that they have rights, especially since the Gulf people are now educated and understand their legitimate rights. The people do not ask for anything beyond the revenues of the emirate. They should know what projects the government wants to spend money on. Moreover, the people should know what projects are necessary for the emirate. The emirate does not need improvised projects which only suit the ruler and his entourage — projects which cost enormous amounts which the government is unable to repay.

The UAE issues laws. The emirate issues others. Therefore, the people should participate in discussing draft laws before their issuance. The people should be represented by a consultative council whose members should be elected from the notables of the emirate. These people should have a good reputation and the experience of their fathers.

The Sharjah ruler added that after settling the situation and meeting the emirate's notables, a consultative council would be formed of about 35 members.

['Abd al-Rahman] How will you rectify the budget deficit and repay the emirate's accumulated debts?

[Al-Qasimi] We will reschedule these debts after very careful study.

['Abd al-Rahman] How much does the emirate owe?

[Al-Qasimi] Five billion dirhams. We will repay them by reducing the interest. We will also repay them from the revenues of the emirate and by halting projects.

['Abd al-Rahman] What are these projects?

[Al-Qasimi] Projects to beautify the city and to build five mosques in Europe, some of which have been completed and others which have not. There are also other projects such as building ornamented markets. The building material for these markets was brought from all parts of the world. We must stop these projects to reduce our debts.

['Abd al-Rahman] Will you ask the GCC states to join you in repaying some of these debts?

[Al-Qasimi] Yes, for the sake of alleviating the crisis we plan to ask the GCC states to do so. I will also ask Kuwait to do so, especially since several Gulf states finance projects in non-Arab states with little interest. Therefore, we have more right than they.

['Abd al-Rahman] Does this mean the Sharjah Emirate could see some lean years?

[Al-Qasimi] All departments in the emirate will see years of austerity. We will also cancel unproductive government departments or merge some of them together, especially those which duplicate work.

['Abd al-Rahman] I understand some will be forced to resign from their jobs?

[Al-Qasimi] Unnecessary manpower will result in some people resigning. However, this will not affect the citizens, who, in fact, should be honored. However, it will affect foreign communities.

['Abd al-Rahman] Are you going to ask merchants in Sharjah to contribute to repaying the debts?

[Al-Qasimi] No, we will not ask them to do so, but we will repay citizens' debts to merchants as soon as possible.

['Abd al-Rahman] Will you contribute from your private funds?

[Al-Qasimi] I have nothing to contribute in repaying these debts from my private funds. However, I will contribute by my sincere efforts and devotion, despite the fact I live in a modest house and have nothing.

['Abd al-Rahman] Can you explain the role of the Chamber of Commerce in the debt crisis, especially since you were chairman?

[Al-Qasimi] How can a machine work without fuel, a car without gas, or a human being without food? The merchants could not get their rights. Thus, they were forced to work in neighboring emirates. In light of this situation, the Chamber of Commerce was powerless against the government.

['Abd al-Rahman] Do you plan to depose those who played a role in the financial crisis and the administrative corruption in Sharjah?

[Al-Qasimi] Yes, I will depose them if it becomes clear they played a role in this. This issue will be presented to the Consultative Council.

['Abd al-Rahman] Does this mean some would stand trial?

[Al-Qasimi] Yes, after consulting the Consultative Council.

['Abd al-Rahman] Even if they were your relatives or members of the ruling family?

[Al-Qasimi] Yes.

['Abd al-Rahman] Then this means you will take reformatory steps?

[Al-Qasimi] The government apparatus will be reorganized soon to cope with our current situation.

['Abd al-Rahman] When will the airport be reopened?

[Al-Qasimi] After the crisis between me and my brother ends.

['Abd al-Rahman] Have you contacted your brother? He is living in the Dubai Emirate after arriving from London.

[Al-Qasimi] I have not contacted him.

['Abd al-Rahman] Will you allow him to enter the emirate?

[Al-Qasimi] In fact, he is my brother and I sympathize with him.

['Abd al-Rahman] What about his funds?

[Al-Qasimi] He has his own financial manager. However, he cannot dispose of the emirate's funds.

['Abd al-Rahman] Have you arrested anyone during the crisis?

[Al-Qasimi] No, we have no detainees. Matters are progressing normally and the security situation is stable.

['Abd al-Rahman] When you will remove checkpoints from the emirate?

[Al-Qasimi] After a decision by the UAE Supreme Council.

['Abd al-Rahman] What do you expect it to decide?

[Al-Qasimi] It will support my decision to rule the emirate.

['Abd al-Rahman] Why?

[Al-Qasimi] Because the Supreme Council knows full well the situation in the emirate and the true reasons behind the change.

['Abd al-Rahman] Does the Army have orders to open fire?

[Al-Qasimi] Yes, if provoked.

['Abd al-Rahman] Why have you closed the newspaper *Al-Khalij*, which is published in Al-Shariqah?

[Al-Qasimi] Because this newspaper works against us and is considered Shaykh Sultan's only weapon. However, it will be reissued after an agreement with the Ministry of Information to censor it. The paper was not censored in the past. As a result, it was only concerned with the person of Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi.

New Ruler on 'Confrontation'

JN201834 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Signs of normality are returning to the Emirate of Sharjah after 4 days of tension between Sharjah and the UAE Supreme Council and also between Sharjah and the neighboring Emirate of Dubai. Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, who has replaced his younger brother Shaykh Sultan as ruler of Sharjah, today said the situation in the emirate is developing in his favor. He further stated that the Emirate of Dubai no longer poses a hostile threat, and that there is no longer a threat of confrontation.

There have been several signs of relaxation in the situation in the past 24 hours. Al-Sharjah airport was reopened yesterday evening and flights are back to normal following a 2-day hiatus. Sources close to the new ruler said that the *Al-Khalij* newspaper, whose publication was banned, will resume publication as of 21 June.

Before noon today the emirate's administrative apparatus resumed normal work. The stringent security measures taken by the national guard were eased in all areas with the exception of the immediate area surrounding the ruler's palace.

All are waiting for the decisions of the UAE Supreme Council. The Council, chaired by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, postponed its meeting yesterday to allow for further consultations. It is scheduled to meet today to adopt a federal stand on the events in Sharjah.

Supreme Council Restores Ruler

JN202051 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jun 87

["Important statement" read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The UAE Supreme Council today, 20 June 1987, held its third session under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. This was done within the framework of the Supreme Council's extraordinary meeting held from Wednesday, 17 June to Saturday, 20 June 1987. The meeting was attended by their highnesses, the members of the UAE Supreme Council, the rulers of the emirates:

His Highness Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of Ra's al-Khaymah; His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn; His Highness Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of 'Ajman; His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad al-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of Al-Fujayrah; His Highness Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum, deputy prime minister and heir apparent of Dubai; His Highness Shaykh Khalid ibn Saqr al-Qasimi, heir apparent and deputy ruler of the Emirate of Ra's al-Khaymah; His Highness Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of finance and industry; and His Highness 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Humayd al-Qasimi, minister of state for the Supreme Council.

The Supreme Council heard a detailed explanation from His Highness Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme council, ruler of the Emirate of Ra's al-Khaymah, and chairman of the committee formed by the UAE Supreme Council. This committee also included His Highness Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of 'Ajman; His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad al-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of Al-Fujayrah; and His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of finance and industry.

The Supreme Council earlier entrusted the aforementioned committee with arranging contacts between the two brothers, Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi and Shaykh 'Abd al-Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, to heal the rift and restore amity and love between them. In light of these fruitful and good efforts, the Supreme Council decided that His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi will return as the Emirate of Sharjah's legal ruler. The UAE Supreme Council has also decided to appoint Shaykh 'Adb al-Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi heir apparent of the Sharjah Emirate.

While it stresses its continuous concern with the importance of guaranteeing stability and security in all parts of the state — as well as with the importance of continuous commitment to the bases and values governing the state's legitimate and constitutional institutions and embodying the spirit of the members of the UAE Supreme Council's one family, the emirates' rulers (a spirit that entrenches the spirit of cohesion and tolerance among the sons of their people) — the UAE Supreme Council expresses its thanks and appreciation for the committee's sincere and valuable efforts. Their highnesses, members of the UAE Supreme Council, the emirates'rulers, also express their thanks and appreciation to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan, UAE president and UAE Supreme Council chairman, for his wisdom and guidance of the Council's successful work to restore amity.

While it stresses to the UAE people that recent events in the Sharjah Emirate drew the Supreme Council's deep concern and that the spirit which all sides displayed at all levels played a positive role in containing the crisis, the UAE Supreme Council — beseeching Almighty God to guide us on a good course and to grant us all success — hopes that all efforts will be exerted to serve the interests and issues of our homeland and people.

Deposed Ruler Thanks Zayid

JN210601 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0532 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Dubayy, 20 Jun (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi expressed thanks for the good efforts of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, and the UAE Supreme Council members in helping him return to power.

This came in a statement delivered by Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi himself and aired by Dubayy television tonight. He also expressed thanks to his family members and the citizens of Sharjah Emirate and other emirates for their kind feelings towards him.

Deposed Ruler, Dubai Heir Meet

JN211016 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Sharjah, received at his place of residence at noon today his brother His Highness Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum, deputy prime minister and Dubai heir apparent. A number of their highnesses the shaykhs and senior officials also attended the meeting.

Rival Shaykhs To Reconcile

JN211030 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jun (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi has learned that a reconciliation will take place today between His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of the Emirate of Sharjah, and His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, his heir apparent. Senior state officials will be present.

The correspondent has also learned from responsible sources in Al-Shariqah that following the reconciliation, His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, accompanied by his brother His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz and other state

officials, will leave for Al-Shariqah. There they will be welcomed by the Sharjah masses.

Paper Praises Crisis Handling
JN211116 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0657 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jun (WAM) — UAE newspapers today expressed the Emirian people's happiness over the victory of the UAE's unionist march. They extended congratulations to the homeland — both leader and people — affirming that the banners of union will remain high, God willing, and will only be replaced by a more comprehensive and larger banner.

In its editorial, the newspaper *Al-Ittihad* says that his highness the president added a new contribution to the UAE's splendid political action along with his brother members of the Supreme Council, who were with him hour-by-hour during the last 3 days' difficulties. We were certain these difficulties would be surmounted through his known political wisdom and his indescribably great love for this loyal people and precious homeland.

The paper refers to the happiness of those who telephoned the president's palace to extend congratulations to him for doing what they expected of him. They expected him to do this because he had never disappointed them and because they never wanted to think that anyone except Zayid and his brother members on the Supreme Council can save the people from their crises and problems.

Al-Ittihad affirms that yesterday's great victory resulted from the UAE president's wisdom in tackling an extraneous crisis. This was the same wisdom with which he built, nurtured, and led this union. He will continue to lead this union for the benefit, success, and prosperity of the present and future of our homeland and people.

The paper indicates that this summer cloud, which has now disappeared, has helped to assert and entrench a number of principles explained by the Supreme Council's statement representing continuous concern for the importance of guaranteeing stability and security throughout the nation. The Supreme Council's statement also represented concern for continuous commitment toward the bases, principles, and values governing the country's legitimate and constitutional establishments.

The paper explains that this could also help to embody the spirit of the one family that binds the UAE Supreme Council members and entrenches cohesion among the sons of their people.

Concluding its editorial, the paper affirms that these enlightened principles are an indivisible part of our experience and continuous progressive march.

Zayid Praised by Qatari Amir
JN211424 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1347 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 21 Jun (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a telephone call from Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani today congratulating him for restoring the situation to normal in the Sharjah Emirate. The Qatari amir praised the UAE president's wisdom and efforts to handle the situation. WAM said that His Highness Shaykh Zayid thanked the Qatari amir for his concern about his second homeland, the UAE.

Reinstatement Decision Rejected
JN211756 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Jun 87 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt][passage omitted] *Al-Qabas* telephoned the government house in Al-Shariqah where Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al- Qasimi lives to get his reaction to the UAE Supreme Council's decision reinstating Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi. His office answered that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz was asleep.

Informed sources told *Al-Qabas* that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz will not accept the UAE Supreme Council's decision. Thus, these sources expressed the belief that a UAE Army force would be mobilized from the Al-Falah camp on the airport road 8 km from the government house.

An informed source told *Al-Qabas* that the forces guarding the government house were reinforced and security measures tightened. The source added that while Dubayy television was broadcasting the UAE Supreme Council statement, a helicopter landed at the heliport of the government house. It was not known whether the helicopter carried reinforcements to the forces around the government house or if Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz left on it to an unknown destination.

The Executive Council, the government, which Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz formed, did not meet yesterday, Saturday. The council was scheduled to meet yesterday in accordance with the amiri decree issued by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz last Wednesday.

Sources have told *Al-Qabas* that the fact that the council has not met is interpreted as a rejection by the department heads of Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz' attempt to succeed his brother Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi. There are 21 department heads who all belong to the ruling family. However, some of them, particularly Shaykh Saqr ibn Rashid al-Qasimi, head of the social affairs department, are considered supporters of Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz has issued orders to the national guard to remove checkpoints from the roads leading to the government house to let in citizens who would like to express allegiance to him. However, the sources told *Al-Qabas* that those citizens number approximately 25-30. The sources added that until last night, Dubai was waiting for an easing of the crisis; otherwise the military option would be its final card to forcibly reinstate Shaykh Sultan as Sharjah ruler. These sources added that most of the ruling family members in Sharjah support Shaykh Sultan, especially after Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz rejected arbitration by the family.

The sources said that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz is now relying on Shaykh Faysal ibn Sultan ibn Salim al-Qasimi, described as the

architect of the abdication statement and the present commander of the amiri guard force. He is also relying on Shaykh Rashid ibn Saqr al-Qasimi, described as his right arm.

Official leaflets issued by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz were dropped by helicopter to citizens explaining his future policy, particularly regarding economic reforms. Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz has also summoned Rashid 'Umran, editor in chief of the newspaper *Al-Khalij*, and informed him that he will remove the guards from the newspaper so its employees can resume their work. *Al-Khalij* will resume publication in Al-Shariqah today, Sunday. The paper was closed last Wednesday and was not published on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday on orders from Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz, who accused the newspaper of being loyal to Shaykh Sultan.

Sharjah merchants left for Dubayy in the past few days to renew their allegiance to Shaykh Sultan after making sure that he will prevail. Meanwhile, Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid Al Maktum, UAE deputy prime minister and Dubai Emirate heir apparent, returned to Dubayy the day before yesterday from London. He was on a private visit to the UK.

Supreme Council Meets 21 Jun

JN212044 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2029 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 21 Jun (WAKH) — The UAE Supreme Council held a meeting under UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in the city of Al-'Ayn this evening. Attending the meeting were His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council member and Sharjah ruler; His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, UAE Supreme Council member and ruler of Umm al-Quwayn; His Highness Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, UAE Supreme Council member and 'Ajaman ruler; His Highness Shaykh Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Sharqi, UAE Supreme Council member and Al-Fujayrah ruler; His Highness Maktum ibn Rashid, deputy prime minister and Dubai heir apparent; His Highness Shaykh Khalid ibn Saqr al-Qasimi, heir apparent and deputy ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah; and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry.

A responsible source said that the council discussed all that is in the interest of the citizens and the homeland in general. The council will resume its meetings tomorrow to discuss matters related to the higher national interest.

Crisis at 'Standstill'

JN220630 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] It appears that the government crisis in the Emirate of Sharjah is at a standstill, and that the decision made by the UAE Supreme Council on 20 June has not yet been implemented. The Supreme Council's decision provides for reinstating the ruler of Sharjah and the appointment of his elder brother Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz as heir apparent.

According to the latest reports from Sharjah, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz, who appointed himself ruler of the emirate on 17 June, is still at Government House, where security has been strengthened and the guard reinforced. There is no clear information on why implementation of the agreed-upon solution has been delayed. However, it appears that Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz, who had agreed to the solution that appointed him heir apparent, is demanding radical changes in the emirate's administration. This is to save the local economy which — according to Shaykh 'Abd al-'aziz — suffers from a $1 billion deficit. Consultations are continuing to resolve the UAE's internal crisis.

Deposed Ruler, Dubai Heir Meet

JN220633 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Dubayy, 21 Jun (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and Sharjah ruler, this evening received at his home UAE Minister of Defense Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum. The meeting was attended by a number of shaykhs and senior officials.

Earlier today, Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi received Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum, Dubai heir apparent and UAE deputy prime minister.

UAE Papers Praise Settlement

JN220924 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jun (WAM) — Local newspapers were unanimous in their editorials today that the crisis which faced Sharjah has proven the solidness and strength of the union. The foundations of this union were laid down by His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president of the UAE. The papers also were proud of the Supreme Council's decision, as well as the leader Zayid's wisdom in tackling the matter. The local papers praised the efforts of his highness and those of his brothers, the members of the Supreme Council and emirate rulers, in straightening out matters and restoring rights to their owners.

Al-Ittihad says that the UAE Supreme Council's decision received a quick, popular response, welcome, and support for the steps taken by the leader and his brothers the rulers. The people are confident that such a crisis or any other crisis cannot obstruct a march which we are determined to continue.

Al-Ittihad adds that in his address to the UAE National Assembly on 29 April 1975, the leader said: Since we are all in the same boat, we all should work to keep it afloat until we reach the shore safely. We must not allow negligence to obstruct the march because the safety of the boat is our survival.

The paper adds: Since 1975, it has been proven to us and to others that our boat will not sink because its captain is skillful in his wisdom, determination, vision, honesty, love of people and homeland — the homeland which acheived, under his leadership, splendid achievements. These achievements have earned it a prominent position on the Arab and international levels.

Concluding, *Al-Ittihad* affirms that the warm and honest welcome by the Arabs, brothers, and friendly countries for the

solution to the crisis is an expression of confidence in the leadership and appreciation of the UAE's stands.

Under the headline "The Homeland's Unity and the Joint Destiny," the newspaper *Al-Wahdah* says that the sons of the homeland continue to admire the Supreme Council's decision to deal with the crisis in Sharjah. This is due to leader Zayid's wisdom and arrangement of the situation in the UAE and ability to remove any development which would jeopardize the country's security and unity.

The paper adds: This crisis has affirmed to us all that the unionist edifice whose foundations were laid by leader Zayid is too strong and large to be demolished. It will remain strong with God's care and the efforts of the leaders who are sincere to their homeland and nation.

The paper praises the Supreme Council's decision to reinstate His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi as the legitimate ruler of Sharjah. It says: [The decision] came to obstruct the road of those plotting against our homeland's unity and to prevent those coveting our people's resources, gains, and interests from achieving their goals.

The paper affirms that all attempts to fish in troubled waters have been nipped in the bud thanks to the alertness of the country's wise leadership.

Concluding its editorial, the newspaper congratulates the UAE leadership and people, asking Almighty God to preserve the UAE.

The Dubayy paper *Al-Bayan* says: "The recent events in our young state have demonstrated the strength of our federation and its ability to face setbacks and developments. They have shown the federation to be capable of facing ordeals with strong and solid bases. These foundations enable it to face situations and indeed benefit from them in strengthening itself and confronting any challenges foisted upon it."

Al-Bayan adds: "The latest events have also shown that the federation is the path to strength, impregnability, and common good. It is a vital cause for our people, their future and their survival. The events have demonstrated the anxiousness of the leader of the federal march, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, for the march to continue."

Al-Bayan notes that the positive reactions, the continuing consultations, the exchange of messages, and the keen interest shown are all telling proof of "the prominent position and prestige which our country, its leader and its people, enjoy on both the Arab and international levels." The paper adds: "The leaders of other states, particularly the fraternal GCC states, were anxious that security, stability, and amity — qualities that have distinguished our unionist experiment during the last years, an experiment that is successful by any standard — shall continue."

In conclusion *Al-Bayan* affirms that the UAE's unionist experience is the only ray of hope for the Arab homeland and people to heal the Arab rift, resolve differences, and restore solidarity and unity.

Battle Reports Received on Gulf Conflict

'Devastating Blow' Viewed

JN181355 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman today challenged the Iranian regime to announce to the Iranian people the fate of the thousands it [Iran] sent to their deaths today and the day before yesterday. In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said the Iranian Government ignored the devastating blow it sustained in the sector east of Maysan which resulted in the destruction of three brigades. The Iranian Government only referred to a battle fought on 16 June in which the (Malik Ashtar) Brigade was annihilated and in which the Iranians did not gain a single inch of territory. The Iranians recalled only this battle today, the spokesman said.

The Iraqi spokesman said the Mirgah Sur region is open to all reporters, including those whom Iran itself wishes to send. The spokesman called on the Iranian rulers to stop their charlatanism and not ignore a battle — in which thousands of their soldiers were killed — to talk about a small abortive attack. The spokesman said this exposes the Iranian regime's attempts to deceive and tell cheap lies to the Iranian people.

Communique No 2,713 Issued

JN181625 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,713 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces last night inflicted the following further losses on the aggressors in all areas of operations:

1. Our units spotted five enemy boats attempting to approach our forward positions in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, fired at them, and forced them to retreat.

2. With concentrated blows to the enemy units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, enemy engineering works were halted. The enemy also sustained the following losses:

A vehicle loaded with ammunition was burned and destroyed, three positions and one observation post were destroyed, and two bulldozers were destroyed.

3. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector destroyed three enemy vehicles and several infantry positions, as well as detonated an ammunition dump.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 June 1987

Communique No 2,714 Issued

JN191628 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,714 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With their combat activities last night and today, our valiant Armed Forces inflicted the following new losses on the aggressor Khomeyniites:

1. One of our patrols in the I Army Corps northern sector clashed with an enemy ambush. The patrol's soldiers bravely killed 10 scoundrels and wounded 7 others, then returned safely to base. Elsewhere in the same sector two rifles and an RPG-7 rocket launcher the enemy left behind were captured, and a vehicle and an ammunition dump were destroyed.

2. Using various types of weaponry, our formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah fired at enemy concentrations, vehicles, and gun emplacements, bringing engineering work to a halt and inflicting important losses on the aggressors. One of our patrols also captured seven types of rifles and two RPG-7 rocket launchers.

3. Our brave artillery units in the VII Army Corps sector inflicted concentrated blows on enemy units before them. They additionally shelled other fortified enemy positions, inflicting losses to the enemy in scoundrels, equipment, and weapons while starting fires in the enemy lines and destroying other positions.

4. The tyrant Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in the steadfast city of Basra with long-rang artillery. The enemy shelling damaged several civilian houses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 June 1987

Communique No 2,715 Issued

JN200738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0705 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,715 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 June 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In continuing our ground forces' victories over the remnants of evil and aggression, our heroic Air Force plays a distinguished role in destroying the pillars of aggression and crime; affirming Iraq's legitimate right to use its powerful force to deprive Iranian rule of all means of evil and war;and embodying its firm course that the only way to deter Iran's rulers from war and from creating regional confusion and sedition lies in delivering more devastating, continuous blows to that despotic clique.

In implementation of this legitimate policy, our gigantic Air Force's aircraft launched a daring, violent raid on Khark Island at 0530 [0130 GMT] today. [Baghdad INA in Arabic at 0720 GMT on 20 June reports the time of this raid as 0035 [2035 GMT on 19 June.] After successfully penetrating the enemy air

defenses with their well-known bravery and skill, our valiant hawks dealt devastating blows to the southern junction of the island's southern jetty, which is important to Iranian oil exports. Our hawks struck their target accurately.

At 0500 [0100 GMT] today, our aircraft also dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast south of Khark.

After carrying out these two missions, our aircraft returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God.

Thus, our daring deeds prove that the Iranian rulers will only reap defeat and destruction from their insistence on war, that he who plows the wind reaps the storm, and that the will of peace based on strength, represented by Iraq supported by the world, will triumph. Blessed be our Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and soldiers — and shame on the agents of Zionism and those who trade with war and its suffering, the suspect rulers of Iran. Our success comes from God, our supporter.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 June 1987

Tanker Said Struck by Missile

JN221157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1142 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] London, 22 Jun (INA) — The British insurance company Lloyds has claimed that the Maltese oil tanker *Tina City* [name as received] was struck by an Iraqi missile when Iraqi fighter planes raided Khark Island on 20 June. Lloyds said the Maltese tanker was on a shuttle trip to Khark when it was hit by an Iraqi missile that damaged and set fire to the vessel.

IV Army Sector Battles Viewed

JN200856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0805 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has claimed that Iraqi forces were able, in accordance with a well-prepared plan, to annihilate the bulk of Iranian forces that attacked the Shurahbil front in the IV Army Corps sector. In a statement to the *Al-Thawrah* newspaper team at the frontline which was published here today, the Iraqi commander said the Iraqi forces first engaged in barrages of fire to prevent Iranian forces from supporting the units assaulting the Iraqi formation. The enemy was actually prevented from supporting its personnel.

The Iraqi commander added that in the second stage the Iraqi units directed concentrated fire at the positions the enemy attempted to approach. He said: We were able to inflict very heavy losses on the enemy. Very few enemy personnel escaped and the rest were either captured or surrendered to Iraqi forces.

The commander said that the Iranian enemy attempted for a third time to push forward large numbers of its units, with support from armored forces. However, the Iraqi defenses were a strong, effective deterrent. He said: Our defenses halted the enemy's attempts and inflicted further losses in personnel and equipment.

In the meantime, a number of Iranian POW's who had been captured by Iraqi forces said in statements to *Al-Thawrah* that they faced heavy Iraqi fire. Because of this, some of them remained in their shelters without offering resistance, instead waiting to surrender to Iraqi units. Other POW's said they were forced to fight in this war because of the Iranian rulers' threats against them and their families.

Communique No 2,716 Issued

JN201629 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,716 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces continue to inflict losses on the aggressors, the agents of Zionism. The following is a roundup of our forces' activities for last night and today:

1. Our gigantic Air Force carried out a series of successful raids on enemy units today, inflicting losses on the rascal Khomeyniites and their equipment while destroying the positions sheltering them with 32 combat missions. After carrying out their missions, our planes returned safely to base with God's care.

2. Our brave helicotper gunships carried out 41 combat missions against enemy troop concentrations, positions, equipment, and gun emplacements, inflicting further losses on the enemy. Our gunships then returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. Our victorious forces in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan attacked all enemy positions opposite them with every type of weapons. They inflicted important losses on the enemy in addition to causing the following confirmed losses: Destroying one tank; killing four scoundrels; burning and destroying one vehicle carrying ammunition; destroying a number of infantry positions; and blowing up five ammunition dumps.

4. A force from one of our units on the VII Army Corps front successfully raided enemy positions across from an Iraqi unit. Our force dealt effective blows and destroyed a number of these positions, either killing or wounding their occupants. Our force returned safely to base. Elsewhere in the sector two scoundrels were also killed.

5. One enemy soldier was killed, one machine gun emplacement and one infantry position were destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

6. One DSHK machine gun and two positions were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

7. One enemy soldier was killed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 June 1987

Air Strikes Said To Continue

JN210721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0617 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA) — Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Iraqi Air Force and air defenses, has affirmed that the Iraqi Air Force will continue to strike at economic and oil targets inside Iran at times determined by the higher command.

In a statement published by the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* published here today, Lt Gen Sha'ban said that the new Iraqi blows to Iran will be more forceful and stronger, and that new methods and weapons will be employed. He stated that great disasters will befall Iran very soon.

He added that striking at Iranian targets was intentionally halted to take the enemy by surprise. Lt Gen Sha'ban also said that the latest blow to Khark Island is one of the Iraqi Air Force's effective raids, as it was carried out with accurate timing and within both a preplanned strategy and objective.

He explained that the Iraqi Air Force will continue to strike oil targets and economic facilities in Iran after giving the Iranians sufficient opportunity to consider the effects of destroying all their economic facilities, especially their oil resources.

Iranian Battle Claims Denied

JN211529 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA) — Iraq has denied that a battle took place in the Sayyid Sadiq area of northern Iraq. In a statement to INA today, an Iraqi military spokesman refuted Iranian media reports on this, and claimed that the situation is stable and safe in all northern Iraq's border villages and townships.

The spokesman said that the lies being spread by Iran are aimed at covering up its battlefront losses as well as those caused by large-scale operations mounted by opposition factions and the Kurdish people against the Iranian regime and the Khomeyniite guards.

The Iraqi military spokesman also explained that the Iranian regime carries out the ugliest kinds of persecution of Kurdish and Azerbaijan citizens, while also shelling peaceful Kurdish villages. He added that the Kurdish citizens in Iran intensified their tstruggle and inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian forces in cooperation with the opposition factions.

The spokesman stressed that the Iranian Government is attempting to keep secret Iran's unrest and internal disturbances. He added that the Iranian media's lies are a fruitless attempt to distract attention from the large-scale military operations carried out by the Iranian National Liberation Army and the ethnic groups being persecuted by the [Iranian] regime.

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN211839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1827 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iran's allegation of having downed an Iraqi aircraft. In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that all Iraqi aircraft, which attacked hundreds of Iranians and destroyed 70 Iranian vehicles carrying personnel, have returned safely to their bases.

Amman TV Cites Foreign Minister on Gulf War

JN171939 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] At the United Nations, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz blamed Iran for rising tensions in the Gulf. He also defended Iraq's strategy of attacking tankers which carry Iranian oil.

[Begin recording] ['Aziz] The Iranians have no right to attack the ships and the facilities of the nonbelligerent countries. That is just an intimidation, and they would like to blackmail those countries and to impose their own will not only on the countries of the region, but on the whole world. They would like to continue the war. They would like to stop Iraq from attacking them. And if Iraq attacks them, they threaten to attack the other countries and intimidate them.

[Unidentified correspondent] Vast majority of attacks against shipping in the Persian Gulf have been Iraqi attacks on third-party ships. Will that policy continue or are you reappraising your right to attack ships heading for Iran?

['Aziz] Well, first of all, if the number of tankers hit by Iraq is higher than the number of the tankers hit by Iran, if that is the case, but the other important aspect of the matter is that the tankers that have been hit by Iraq were Iranian tankers. The tankers that have been hit by Iran were tankers or ships which belong to nonbelligerent countries. And there is a great difference between this and that. [end recording]

Peres on Reports of Husayn Conference Deadline

TA220855 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres is on his way to Britain. Prior to taking off, the foreign minister commented on reports which noted that Husayn will wait no longer than April [as heard] for an Israeli decision on the question of an international conference. Our correspondent Eli Ildis was at Ben-Gurion Airport:

[Begin Peres recording] I do not think that everything that has been accomplished will be lost in the next 2 months. I simply believe that if nothing happens by the beginning of 1988, there will be a pause until mid-1989 for reasons known to all of us. [end recording]

No Talks With Soviets, Chinese

TA221034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has set out on his European visit after denying reports that he will meet Soviet and Chinese officials while in Switzerland. Peres is scheduled to meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, French President Francois Mitterrand, and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Peres said he will seek clarifications from European leaders over which of two versions of the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East they support. One version, he said, is the American, which calls for an umbrella conference as an opening to direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan. He described the Soviet version as providing a dynamic and active role for the Soviet Union.

Peres, speaking at a press conference prior to departure, warned that if no progress is made on the conference, the field will be left open for initiatives by the Soviet Union and the PLO.

Prime Minister Shamir Comments on African Tour

TA211101 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0930 GMT 21 Jun 87

[News conference held by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at his office in Jerusalem upon his return from a tour of African countries — live]

[Text] [Shamir] We ended a state visit to several African countries yesterday. The objective of this trip was to resume relations with those countries with which relations have not yet been resumed and to strengthen and enhance those relations which already exist. The visit itself had vast reverberations in the African Continent. It proved to all that Israel is interested in relations with African states and wants to help them. Through thisvisit, Israel demonstrated its presence on the continent.

The echoes have generally been very favorable. Some African countries that have not yet resumed relations with us showed aninterest in doing so and are working on the renewal of ties in the most appropriate manner. We could have brought about the resumption of relations with additional countries during this visit, but the short time available did not make this technically feasible. However, I have no doubt whatsoever that in the wake of this tour relations with other countries will be forthcoming.

During my tour, I conferred with the heads of state of the four countries we visited. We conducted very comprehensive and intimate talks, not just on bilateral relations but on the international situation in general, developments in Africa, Israeli-African relations, and the possible ways Israel can help African countries to raise their stature and become active in the international arena. The ties established with the heads of state of Togo, Cameroon, Liberia, and the Ivory Coast are excellent, friendly, and personal. I have no doubt that these ties will continue on the same basis and will help us to strengthen our contacts in Africa.

The highlight of my tour was the visit to the Ivory Coast, the most developed country in Africa and the one which is most attached to Israel. There I had the privilege to hold a lengthy series of talks with Ivory Coast President Houphouet-Boigny, who is currently considered to be one of the leaders of the African Continent. During almost 8 hours of talks, we discussed all possible international and bilateral issues.

For the most part, African heads of state are pleased with their relations with Israel. They are grateful for everything that we do for them. They would like to receive more aid, of course, but they are very well aware of Israel's limitations, which I took care to emphasize. Israel is not a financial superpower; it does not have vast economic possibilities. What it does have to offer is experience and professional expertise in various spheres, something which we are sincerely prepared to share with our friends out of concern for their interests.

In these countries we encountered Israeli activities that are impressive and that have a very favorable impact on the local population. I was accompanied on my trip by Israeli businessmen, who in the course of our travels initiated contacts with government and financial officials. Certain connections were established, and some of our people stayed behind to continue dealing with their affairs. As a result of such connections, I foresee a positive effect on these countries and on our relations with them.

For the most part, I saw and felt great friendship; more than friendship, I felt a spiritual connection to Israel. The official receptions in general, and the enthusiastic popular receptions in particular, went beyond any rules of etiquette and protocol andstrongly and emphatically demonstrated what millions of Africans feel toward Israel. We did not expect such admiration and enthusiasm, and we were all very moved and impressed by it. I bring Africa's blessing to the State of Israel.

[IDF Radio correspondent Yaron Qulas] Mr Prime Minister, which other African countries do you expect will resume relations with Israel, and when do you think that this will take place?

[Shamir] I cannot mention the countries by name because this would affect the process now under way. However, I do think that some developments will take place soon.

[Qulas] Is there a problem of Arab pressure on these countries not to resume relations?

[Shamir] There is Arab pressure, and there has also been negative reaction on the part of the Soviets. Despite this, I believe that several countries are determined to overcome and ignore such pressure and to establish ties with Israel.

[Qulas] You have raised the plight of Ethiopian Jews who remained in Ethiopia. You discussed this issue with African leaders. Can you tell us of any progress that has been made or the response you received on this issue?

[Shamir] True, I raised the humanitarian problem of family unification for Ethiopian Jews who managed to immigrate to Israel. We are faced with a terrible tragedy of family members who are with us while their relatives remained behind in Ethiopia. The agony of these divided families is unbearable and terrible. I asked the African leaders with whom I met to try and intercede with Ethiopia to solve this problem. We are prepared to take all possible measures to put an end to this tragedy. All the African leaders were very responsive.

[Qulas] Could you also say that progress has been made on the issue?

[Shamir] I could not see any progress in the course of the week. I spoke to heads of state, and I asked them to intercede with the Ethiopian authorities. None of us knows whether this will be of any help, but we keep trying.

PRC Official Comments on 'Unofficial Contacts'

TA211224 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
21 Jun 87 p 4

[Report from France by Arnon Yafe]

[Text] Paris — The PRC has unofficial information and commercial exchanges with Israel, a PRC Government official told the Socialist International Middle East Committee meeting in Paris. He expressed the wish to develop scientific and technological ties as well.

The Chinese official said: "The PRC currently has unofficial contacts and connections with Israel, but diplomatic relations will not be established as long as a [Middle East] solution remainsto be found. We want to develop trade and to promote the chances for contacts with Israelis. [no end quotation marks as published]

He pointed out that the PRC ambassador to the United Nations had given an audience to the director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and that the PRC is open to Israeli scientists.

Wang Lanjiang, a diplomatic counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Paris, was primarily replying to questions by Arye Shafir, MAPAM's representative on the committee, about the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel before an international conference convenes. The Labor Party representative on the committee remained silent throughout the discussion.

Wang told the MAPAM representative that the PRC unqualifiedly recognizes Israel's existence but cannot impose its position on the PLO. He pointed out that the PRC would not establish diplomatic relations under present conditions and as long as there is no solution to or withdrawal from the occupied territories. However, the PRC is open to contacts with all sides, including Israel, during the preparations being made to convene an international conference.

'Progress' in 'Secret' Talks

TA211226 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
21 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Considerable progress has been made in secret political contacts held over the last few months between PRC officials and Israeli diplomats. The impression of the Israeli figures who have been holding such contacts with the Chinese, particularly Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir, is that the PRC would be prepared to establish diplomatic relations with Israel if an international conference on the Middle East is convened.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem attaches great importance to the remarks made by a senior Chinese diplomat in Paris with regardto possible progress toward establishing relations with Israel if progress is made in the political process.

The assessment of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is that the PRC is interested in the region's political process and will not lag behind the Soviets in this regard.

Over the last few months Tamir has held secret meetings with PRC officials. The Chinese are very interested in continuing the political process with Israel while pursuing talks on economic issues with government and private representatives.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres attaches great importance to the ongoing contacts with the PRC and intends to promote them. Peres will leave for Europe tomorrow to discuss the question of an international conference with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, French President Francois Mitterrand, and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Sinyurah's Cars Set Ablaze in Jerusalem

TA210543 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] The following is a report which has just arrived at our news desk: Two cars owned by Hanna Sinyurah, the editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper *Al-Fajr* who is closely associated with the PLO, were set on fire in Jerusalem overnight. The cars were set ablaze at the entrance to Sinyurah's residence in Shu'fat in north Jerusalem. Graffiti denouncing Sinyurah was painted near the vehicles. It may be recalled that a short time ago Sinyurah announced his willingness to run in the municipal elections in Jerusalem under certain conditions.

Sinyurah Determined To Run

TA210646 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0630 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Two cars owned by Hanna Sinyurah were set ablaze in Jerusalem last night. Commenting on the incident, Hanna Sinyurah told our correspondent Shlomi Stein that this was the response of those who could not come to grips with the issues he has brought into prominence. According to Hanna Sinyurah, everything that he has been doing is meant to serve the Palestinian people. He added that he is determined to go ahead with his plan to run in the Jerusalem municipal elections. He reiterated his position that only two things could make him give up this notion: a change in the Israeli law or an international legal opinion stating that such a move would mean recognition of Israeli rule.

Arrests May Create Resentment Toward PLO

TA210724 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Jun 87 pp 1, 8

[Report by Elaine Ruth Fletcher and Yehuda Litani]

[Text] The arrest by the Shin Bet of PFLP cell members who assassinated former Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri last year is likely to create resentment in the territories towards the PLO, which recently reunited with George Habash's PFLP.

OC [Officer in command] Central Command Aluf [Major general] Amram Mitzna' announced the arrest of members of the highly-trained and motivated terrorist cell at a press conference on Friday.

He said the cell carried out the Nabulus assassination of Al-Masri on March 2, 1985, as well as the killings of two Israelis, Albert Bukhris and Jamil Faris, on July 3, 1985, and January 11, 1981 respectively.

Sources told *The Jerusalem Post* that the arrests put PLO supporters in Nabulus in a particularly embarrassing situation since Yasir 'Arafat's deputy, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], had sworn to avenge Al-Masri's murder in March, 1985. Al-Masri's funeral was transformed into a pro-PLO demonstration and PLO supporters even printed T-shirts bearing the slain mayor's profile.

But this spring, the PLO reunited with the PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine) — which apparently ordered Al-Masri's assassination from Damascus.

The terrorist cell, described by Mitzna' as unusually daring and professional, made a total of six assassination attempts over a two-year period — three of which only injured their victims.

The most recent incident on May 23, an apparent attempt to kill Janin Mayor 'Abdallah Lakhlukh, finally led to the exposure of the terrorist cell, said highly placed military sources.

In that incident, a single assassin shot and slightly injured Lakhlukh's nephew, 4, who was in a car alongside Janin's municipal building — and then escaped in a getaway car.

Mitzna' said that the cell received its orders directly from the PFLP commander in Syria. The fact that cell members acted each time orders were given underlines their high degree of discipline.

In three cases, Mitzna' said, the group also received detailed instructions on whom to assassinate — implying that Al-Masri and Lakhlukh were targets selected by the PFLP's top command.

Mitzna' did not specify how many suspects had been arrested. But he noted that the 7.65 mm and .22 inch pistols used in that attacks had still not been located — indicating that other members of the cell may still be at large.

Mitzna' said the cell members arrested so far come from the villages of 'Anabta and Bayt Furik near Nabulus.

He gave a thumbnail sketch of one of the cell members, a man who was drafted into the PFLP in 1980 and then underwent training in Dar'a near Damascus.

After returning to the West Bank, he became involved in several security-related incidents and received a three-year prison sentence in 1982.

The suspect was detained and interrogated following one of the assassination attempts, Mitzna' said, but released for lack of evidence.

Mitzna' described him as an intelligent man, and "dedicated." He did not say if any of the cell members had confessed yet to their alleged crimes.

Mitzna' praised the Shin Bet for taking the lead in uncovering the cell, saying that "this shows the Shin Bet continues to work and to operate and to contribute its part to security in the field."

Mitzna' said the cell carried out its first murder on July 3, 1985, when a single assassin killed Bukhris, an Israeli who operated a kiosk next to the military administration building in Nabulus, as he was walking to the Nabulus market to buy pita.

On August 24, 1985, an attacker seriously injured Ori 'Oved as he was shopping in Nabulus. On January 11, 1986, a single assassin killed border policeman Jamil Faris and injured a second border policeman, as the two men were shopping in downtown Nabulus. On March 2, 1986, an assassin gunned down Al-Masri alongside the Nabulus municipal building with a 7.65 mm revolver, and escaped with an accomplice in a car.

On June 5, 1986, an Israeli, Hayim Tan-'Ami, was injured slightly by an attacker firing a 7.65 mm revolver as he was shopping in central Nabulus. The most recent incident, the apparent attempt on the life of Mayor Lakhlukh of Janin, also involved a single assassin using a 7.65 mm revolver who escaped with another person in a car.

Soldiers, Gaza Residents Injured in Demonstration

TA210658 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Two IDF soldiers were injured by stones and two inhabitants of the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip were wounded by shrapnel, apparently from fire opened during the course of dispersing a violent demonstration on Friday evening. Ilan Ben-dor, our correspondent in the territories, reports the following:

The large riot in the Jabalyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip was sparked by a religious conflict over control of the main mosque. When IDF and Border Police personnel arrived on the scene, however, the rioters directed their wrath at them. They threw rocks and iron bars at the troops, slightly injuring two soldiers who were then evacuated from the scene. The remaining troops used tear gas and fired into the air to disperse the rioters. About an hour later, an inhabitant of Jabalyah, who had been wounded by shrapnel, checked into the local hospital. Another injured person checked into the hospital 9 hours later. The two said that they had been wounded by gunfire. The circumstances under which they were wounded remain unclear and are being investigated by the military police. An initial debriefing indicates that the soldiers who fired into the air had faced mortal danger. [passage omitted]

A makeshift bomb was thrown at a Border Police patrol on Friday afternoon in the Nur al-Shams refugee camp near Tul karm. There were no casualties reported and no damage was caused by the blast. A 2-hour curfew was imposed on the camp.

The window of an Israeli vehicle was shattered by stones on the road bypassing the Balatah refugee camp on Saturday. Stones were also thrown in the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, but there were no casualties and no damage was reported.

'Arafat Said 'Willing' To Meet Knesset Members

TA211646 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
21 Jun 87 pp 1,2

[Report by Yitzhaq Meridor, Muhammad Khalilah, Natan Ro'i, and Amir Rosenblitt]

[Excerpt] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is willing to meet with a group of Israeli Knesset members [MK's] as soon as possible and in any European country agreed upon to discuss with them ways to promote the peace process. At the end of such a meeting, he is prepared to come out with a joint communique that will call for maintaining the national rights of both peoples. This was stated by MK 'Abd al-Wahab Darawshah yesterday upon his return from a meeting of the Arab "lobby" in Washington.

For the first time this year, three Israeli MK's had been invited to the deliberations of the Arab "lobby": [Labor Party] MK 'Uzi Bar'am (who did not go "due to prior to commitments"); [Labor Party] MK Darawshah; and MK Ran Kohen of the Citizens Rights Movement. In a talk with DAVAR correspondents, MK Darawshah said that he had learned of 'Arafat's willingness to meet with Israeli MK's to promote the peace process from a senior Arab personage, a man who is very close to the PLO leader. This man, who passed the information on to Darawshah during the meeting in Washington, took care to emphasize that he was indeed authorized to do so.

"I view 'Arafat's offer as a historic breakthrough and will be prepared to participate in such a meeting with other MK's, especially since my impression from this last U.S. visit is that we cannot expect initiatives from others for the promotion of the peace process," MK Darawshah stated, adding: "My impression was that the U.S. Administration is tired and is today incapable of any initiative on the Middle East issue. This administration is preoccupied with Irangate, the contras, and AIDS. The current problem on its agenda is the Persian Gulf and the means to guarantee freedom of navigation there."

During the meeting in Washington, MK Darawshah openly conferred with Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Kamal, a Saudi deputy minister, who declared his support for the convening of an international conference as a means to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It was decided during the meeting of this "lobby" that a delegation of Arab public figures from the United States will be sent to the Middle East for tours and meetings with the leaders of countries in this region. [passage omitted]

'AL HAMISHMAR Views Budapest Meeting With PLO

TA211825 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
21 Jun 87 p 8

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "Trendsetting by Moscow"]

[Text] The importance of the meeting held in Budapest by the peace delegation should be analyzed in two respects: from the point of view of Soviet-Israeli relations and from that of a possible PLO-Israeli dialogue in the future.

Only a blind man would fail to notice the rough fingerprints of the Soviets on the meeting in Hungary, which were clearer than those left on the meeting in Romania. Compared to Romania, which hosted the first meeting between Israeli leftists and a PLO delegation, Hungary is a true member of the Warsaw Pact and coordinates its foreign policy with the Kremlin in a much clearer fashion than Romania. One of the PLO delegation members was the organization's representative in Moscow, and this clearly points to Soviet involvement in initiating the meeting. As for Israel, the involvement of HADASH was clear, and the person defined as the head of the delegation was Knesset Member Charlie Biton.

Soviet patronage over future meetings as well will not be in question since it is difficult, in the wake of the complications arising at the recent PNC session in Algeria, to find any Arab capital prepared to host such meetings.

In this context it is worth mentioning a report in the East Jerusalem daily *Al-Quds* which cited Palestinian sources in Tunis (on 15 June 1987) as saying that the meeting in Budapest proved that during its session in Algeria the PNC had not changed the PLO's basic policy. The PLO is continuing with the policy it had before that session. In other words, the PLO is still

striving for partnership with both Jordan and Egypt, not necessarily with Syria, in the political process.

The question as to whether the PLO has grown more radical in the wake of the PNC session in Algeria has a very surprising communist aspect. For years the Palestinian communists had been barred from entering PLO institutions due to their rejection of armed struggle. Fatah's readiness to incorporate communist representatives in the PLO Executive Committee points to more flexibility in Fatah's position on this matter, but Habash's and Hawatimah's organizations were not willing to give up the principle of armed struggle. Therefore, Sulayman Najjab, the leader of the Palestinian communists outside the territories, undertook in writing to agree to armed struggle. When the leaders of the communists "inside" [the territories] learned of this, they informed their "outside" colleagues that they rejected Najjab's written commitment. The communists in the territories want to join the PLO but not at the expense of rejecting armed struggle. They are also concerned about the possibility that Israel will begin to view them as "terrorists," and this in turn will destroy the political infrastructure they havebuilt with great care and effort.

In any event, the meeting in Budapest indicates that the Soviets are inclined toward a political dialogue and not toward stepped-up armed struggle.

The Arab aspect of the Soviet patronage is as follows: Syria attacked the meeting, thus embarking on a covert confrontation with the USSR. Following in the footsteps of Damascus was the Abu Nidal organization, which did not join the conciliation with the PLO, while the organizations of Habash and Hawatimah, who were reconciled with 'Arafat through Soviet efforts, kept quiet. Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], a member of the PLO Executive Committee who headed the Palestinian delegation in Budapest, emphasized in his speech that the meeting with the Israelis is anchored in the PNC decisions in Algeria; namely, that it was held with the agreement of Habash and Hawatimah as well.

This, in essence, is the importance Soviet patronage has with regard to curbing radical Arabs. However, this patronage is also important in the Israeli context: The meeting in Budapest indicated Moscow's conditions for rapprochement with Israel and the price it is prepared to pay.

The question that first comes to mind is why the Soviets chose Budapest of all places? The answer is probably a reflection of the Jewish perspective. The GDR and Poland were out of the question due to memories of the holocaust; there was no desire to weave a thread between the PLO and Israel in Germany or in Poland, which is the largest graveyard of European Jewry. In contrast to this, there is a relatively large Jewish community in Hungary which entertains possibly greater aspirations to immigrate to Israel than those of the Soviet Jewry. The meeting in Budapest was the peak of Hungarian gestures toward Israel. In the neighborhood where I live in Jerusalem, Ramot Eshkol, one can still see advertisements for the Hungarian circus which has attracted the attention of the children in Jerusalem. Other artists' troups have also recently arrived in Israel from Hungary and one still remembers the Jewish Congress session which was just held in Budapest. In other words, Hungary only illustrates the pattern of relations which the USSR is prepared to develop with Israel if the latter accepts Moscow's terms, the primary one being clearly indicated at the Budapest meeting: negotiations with the PLO. The Soviets will be prepared to meet Israel halfway, both on the Jewish issue and with regard to bilateral relations. After Israel foiled the meeting that was supposed to take place in Amman 2 years ago between a delegation of authentic Palestinians of the Hanna Sinyurah type and a U.S. delegation led by Richard Murphy, it in fact handed over the reins of the political process to the Soviets. It is the Soviets, after managing to reunite the PLO, who are in position to dictate conditions to Peres, not the other way around.

Great importance, however, should also be attached to the Budapest meeting from the point of view of Israel-PLO relations if Israel indeed reads the signals correctly. Just as with Hanna Sinyurah's initiative, what the PLO is desperately trying to signal to Israel is that whatever Jordan can do the PLO can do better. I will not get into the initiative of Sinyurah here, but as for theBudapest point the message is extremely simple: There is a great deal of talk about meetings between King Husayn and Israeli leaders. The problem is that no one knows for sure that they indeed take place secretly and in camera. What Husayn is doing in secret the PLO is prepared to do in broad daylight; namely, to begin overt negotiations with Israel. The fact that the PLO today only converses with Charlie Biton is not its fault. The PLO wants to meet with Shamir or Peres, and if this is the level of negotiations on Israel's part, then these negotiations will not be held with Abu Mazin but with 'Arafat himself.

This is why Jordan is nervous about the meeting in Budapest; at least this is the impression created by the reportage in its East Jerusalem organ, *Al-Nahar*. It is this organ of Jordan's supporters, rather than those expressing the views of the PFLP or DFLP, which comes out strongly against such meetings. It is presumably playing at being the PLO more than Abu Mazin...and we have already witnessed that it is the same *Al-Nahar* which urged the tarrying PLO to condemn Sinyurah's initiative.

However, it is greatly to be doubted whether there is anyone in Israel who is prepared to interpret correctly the signals sent from Budapest.

King Husayn To Discuss Arms Requirements in UK

JN201949 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
19 Jun 87 p 7

[Text] London — Arab diplomatic sources in London have told *Al-Ittihad* that King Husayn of Jordan will hold talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during his expected visit in the middle of July. These talks will focus on Jordan's military requirements.

According to these sources, King Husayn's visit was to have taken place at the end of May, but Thatcher announced early general elections. The visit was then rescheduled to take place after the elections. The sources said that the Jordanian king will raise the issue of an international conference for peace in the Middle East. He will also urge Thatcher to exert efforts in Europe to convene this conference.

A spokesman for the British Foreign Office told *Al- Ittihad* that Britain attaches great importance to King Husayn's forthcoming visit. It falls within the framework of the excellent relations which exist between Amman and London.

The spokesman added that the Jordanian monarch will discuss ways to promote these relations in light of recent developments, foremost of which is the reelection of Margaret Thatcher as prime minister for a third consecutive term.

UN's Goulding Meets Prime Minister, Departs

JN211246 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, in his office this morning. Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri was also present at this meeting.

Goulding briefed the prime minister on the results of the meetings which he has undertaken in the region at the instructions of the UN secretary general. He also reviewed the possibilities for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

The meeting was attended by Jean-Claude Aime, UN assistant under secretary general for special political affairs, and 'Abdallah Salah, Jordan's permanent UN representative. Goulding left Amman this afternoon.

PLO Official Lacking Visa Denied Entry

JN211248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Well-informed Palestinian sources in Amman have reported that the Jordanian authorities have not allowed PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani to enter their territory.

The Jordanian authorities justified this rejection by saying that PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani, who arrived from Baghdad, had not obtained an entry visa that permits him to visit Jordan.

Since its decision to close the PLO offices in Amman last July, Jordan has asked PLO members to obtain an entry visa if they want to visit Jordan.

'Abdallah Hurani spent the night in the Amman airport transit hall and left for Tunis this morning.

Minister Says Kidnappings Possibly 'Personal'

NC200509 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Contacts and efforts are continuing in an attempt to secure the release of 'Ali 'Adil 'Usayran, U.S. journalist Charles Glass, and policeman Sulayman Sulayman, who were kidnapped by gunmen in the Al-'Awza'i area last Wednesday afternoon.

Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said that he expects those who were kidnapped to be released today or tomorrow. In reply to a question, he stated: I do not accuse anyone. He ruled out any connection between their abduction and the hostage issue, noting: They could have been kidnapped for personal reasons.

Forces Hold Syrians Responsible

NC200800 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in English 0730 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] While nothing new is available concerning the fate of the American journalist Charles Glass and 'Ali 'Adil 'Usayran, the son of the Lebanese defense minister, an official source in the Lebanese Forces has denounced the kidnapping of Mr Glass and Mr 'Usayran, which took place in broad daylight in West Beirut and near a checkpoint of the Syrian Forces.

The Lebanese Forces' source affirmed that the Syrian occupation forces were responsible for the incident, as they were in charge of protecting the Lebanese and foreigners in areas under their occupation. He added that this was in accordance with the UN and human rights charters, which stipulated that occupation forces were responsible for the safety of citizens within the areas under their control.

The Lebanese Forces source asked the Syrian military authorities to put on trial those neglecting the protection of citizens, especially as this operation was against the son of a prominent figure of the Lebanese state.

The source expressed the belief that any official showing indifference to this matter would be considered an accomplice in the crime.

Syrian Direct Intervention Noted

NC201136 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1106 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] An important development with regard to the kidnapping of'Ali 'Usayran, his companion, and American journalist Charles Glass took place during a telephone conversation between Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran and the Presidential Palace in Damascus this afternoon. Because President Hafiz al-Asad is not present in the Syrian capital, 'Usayran spoke with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who told him that the Syrian leadership, on direct ordersfrom President Hafiz al-Asad, has issued clear instructions to the Syrian Forces Command in Lebanon to intensify its efforts to secure the release of 'Ali 'Usayran, his companion, and the U.S. journalist.

Defense Minister 'Usayran's sources said that this is an important development because it constitutes Syrian invervention at the highest level and will necessarily push release efforts forward. It also constitutes direct Syrian intervention in the whole abduction issue.

The Syrian Command in Beirut is contacting all the parties concerned. Within this context, Colonel 'Ali Hammud, head of the Syrian observers team, visited Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah to coordinate their efforts since Fadlallah is one of those seeking the release of 'Usayran, the U.S. journalist, and 'Usayran's companion.

It is worth noting that Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has informed Defense Minister 'Usayran that the abduction issue is a matter that concerns him personally.

Birri, Defense Minister Meet

NC201712 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] At 1945 today Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran received Minister Nabih Birri, who has just returned from Damascus. The discussions dealt with the circumstances of the abduction of 'Ali 'Usayran and an American journalist. Minister Birri said: My visit to Minister 'Usayran immediately upon my return is significant. The stage now is one of work, not wishes.

'Usayran: Hizballah Holding Son

NC211054 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1036 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Contacts and behind-the-scenes security investigations have actively continued to obtain the release of 'Ali 'Usayran, American journalist Charles Glass, and policeman Sulayman Sulayman.

In an urgent dispatch carried by *Reuter* a short time ago, Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said that Hizballah had abducted his son and the U.S. journalist, along with their driver. 'Usayran made the following statement to a *Reuter* correspondent at his residence in Al-Rumaylah: It has been established that the kidnapped individuals are in the hands of Hizballah. He did not elaborate.

'Usayran also said that he expected surprises with regard to allthe foreign hostages in Lebanon.

Denies Accusing Hizballah

NC211454 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1420 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpts] 'Adil 'Usayran has denied a *Reuter* report that he had accused Hizballah of kidnapping his son 'Ali, U,S, journalist Charles Glass, and their companion. 'Usayran declared that he has heard nothing in this respect other than unsubstantiated rumors. In an interview with Visnews, 'Usayran said that he

hoped the kidnapping would have a happy ending, adding that contacts so far have not yielded any fruit. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, 'Usayran's wife has appealed to the kidnappers to release her son and to adhere to the standards of national integrity and Islamic teaching. [passage omitted]

Iranian Envoy's Help Sought
NC211530 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said today that his son 'Ali, U.S. journalist Glass, and policeman Sulayman Sulayman are being held by Hizballah. He refused to specify where they are being held. 'Usayran revealed that consultations will be held with the Iranian ambassador in Lebanon to urge him to work for the release of the three detainees. 'Usayran hoped that the Iranian ambassador would act wisely and assist in this matter, especially since the kidnapped persons are being held by Hizballah. This came in a statement Minister 'Usayran made at his house in Al-Rumaylah. He was speaking to official and popular delegations who visited him to express their condemnation of the kidnapping of his son and his companions.

In his statement, Minister 'Usayran said that he expected surprises in connection with some of the foreign hostages in Lebanon.

He indicated that indirect contacts are taking place between him and Hizballah through mediators. He added: We have an appointment with the Iranian ambassador in Lebanon in this respect. He called on the Iranian ambassador to act wisely and to help in this matter.

When told that Hizballah has denied any connection with the kidnapping incident, he stated: A denial of something amounts to a confirmation of it.

Asked whether the kidnapped persons are being held in the southern suburb, 'Usayran replied: I don't know. He said that he was optimistic about the release of his son and his two companions, and declared: Expect new surprises with regard to the rest of the hostages. He affirmed that influential countries are intervening in this regard.

Minister 'Usayran said that Minister Nabih Birri informed him yesterday that the Syrian leaders are interested in the case of his son and his companions, and that efforts are continuing to achieve the desired results.

Hizballah again told our radio this afternoon that media reports of 'Usayran's accusation that the party had kidnapped his son and the U.S. journalist were untrue. Hizballah affirmed that it has no connection with the kidnapping operation and denied that the persons concerned are being held by the party.

Iranian Envoy Ready To Assist
NC221618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran this afternoon contacted Ahmad Dastmalchiyan, the Iranian ambassador to Lebanon, who expressed complete readiness to assist in solving the case of the three kidnap victims.

Syria Rejects Abductors' Demands
JN211623 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1605 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] With respect to the kidnapping of 'Ali 'Usayran, the son of the Lebanese defense minister, and U.S. journalist Charles Glass, sources close to the Syrian command in Beirut have stated that Syria rejected a proposal submitted by the kidnappers to release 'Ali 'Usayran and keep U.S. journalist Charles Glass. These sources reported that the Syrian command in West Beirut continues to abide by its stand calling for the immediate and unconditional release of 'Ali 'Usayran, Charles Glass, and the driver of their car. The Syrian command warned the kidnappers that they must release the kidnapped men as soon as possible, the sources concluded.

Kan'an Meets With Fadlallah
NC211821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, today met with Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah [Hizballah spiritual mentor]. He told him that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is taking a close interest in the case of the kidnapping of 'Ali 'Usayran and Charles Glass, and attaches considerable importance to the issue.

Release Expected in '1 or 2 Days'
NC212029 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] In a televised interview this evening, Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said that according to the most recent information he has received, his son 'Ali, American journalist Charles Glass, and policeman Sulayman Sulayman will be released in 1 or 2 days.

Glass Release Linked to Hamadi
NC220614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0525 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] A Syrian security official said last Saturday [20 June] that the southern suburb of Beirut has become a part of Iran and that entry into it involves international contacts.

The source disclosed that there are currently 29 foreign hostages and 145 Lebanese nationals kidnapped from the Fathallah Barracks in the suburb in addition to 200 former SAVAK officers

now cooperating with the current Iranian regime and [an unspecified number of] intelligence experts of various nationalities. The source also claimed that 100 Iranians hold various posts in the suburb.

In another development, it has been learned that negotiations are continuing to secure the release of 'Ali 'Usayran without his American guest. The talks are proceeding on the basis of freeing 'Ali 'Usayran first and then pledging to act toward obtaining the release of U.S. hostage Glass. 'Ali 'Usayran already has rejected such a scenario.

Furthermore, it has been proposed that a request be made to 'Adil 'Usayran to make a statement denying Hizballah's culpability in the kidnapping. 'Usayran said in a television interview that it was this group that carried out the abduction and that Lebanese-Iranian contacts are underway to secure the release of the kidnapped persons.

The kidnappers disclosed yesterday that the release of 'Ali 'Usayran and his American host is conditional upon a pledge by the FRG not to extradite Muhammad 'Ali Hamadi, detained in Frankfurt, to the United States.

Hizballah on Glass' Fate

NC221114 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] According to available information, the issue of the abduction of U.S. journalist Glass and Minister 'Usayran's son and their companion has entered a phase of stagnation at least with respect to the American journalist's fate. The same reports indicate that in exchanges between the two sides, Hizballah has informed the Syrians that the fate of the American journalist is now similar to that of the other hostages. Hizballah added that any distinction between the fate of one foreign hostage and another has currently been ruled out. Hizballah affirmed that a breakthrough concerning the destiny of the hostages requires regional and international circumstances that do not now exist, noting that the question of detaining individuals or releasing them exceeds the power of local parties.

'Usayran Release in 'Few Hours'

NC220828 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, 'Ali 'Usayran, son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, is expected to be released within the next few hours.

Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an [chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon] had given Defense Minister 'Usayran assurances that his son would be released. The defense minister expressed the wish that the three kidnapped individuals would be released at the same time.

Three U.S. Hostages Transferred to Tehran

JN192019 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Jun 87

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Citing informed security sources, the Lebanese *Central News Agency* today reported that three U.S. hostages were transported from Beirut airport to Tehran airport for fear that the [southern Beirut] suburb might be stormed in a bid to secure their release.

Group Announces Execution of Jewish Hostage

NC200438 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0428 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The Organization of the Oppressed on Earth has announced that it has executed the Jew Eli Surur, whom it described as the chairman of the Higher Council of the Jewish community in Lebanon and a senior Israeli spy.

Jewish Source Denies Report

NC201341 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1320 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] A responsible source has affirmed on behalf of the Higher Council of the Jewish community in Lebanon that the photograph appearing in the newspaper *Al-Nahar* today is not that of Eli Surur. It is probably that of Yitzhaq Sason, who was the leader of the Jewish community in Lebanon, the source said, adding that Sason is the only Jew who is still being held by the kidnappers.

The source pointed out that the Oppressed on Earth Organization had issued a statement on 30 December 1986 in which it declared that it had just executed Eli Surur and three other Jews: (Yehuda Bensti), (Ibrahim Bensti), and (Henri Min).

Military Council Decisions on Karami Case

NC200635 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] A military source has stated that during yesterday's Military Council meeting, which was dedicated to discussing the military committee's final report on the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the Council decided the following:

— To keep its meetings open so that members can be kept informed of the course of the investigations;

— To take the necessary measures in light of the investigation results;

— To maintain a state of alert in the concerned branches of the Army so that they may make inquiries into the identity of the perpetrators and those who are behind them;

— To put the results of its work at the disposal of the judicial investigator;

— To keep certain members of the Air Force in precautionary custody and at the disposal of the judicial investigator;

— To submit the committee's final findings to the judicial investigator so that they can be added to the file on the case; and

— To send copies of the final report to the same authorities that had received the preliminary findings.

Judicial Investigator To Resign From Karami Case

NC200805 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0715 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] When our radio contacted the residence of Justice Munif 'Uwaydat, we received confirmation that the investigating magistrate wrote his resignation at midnight last night and left this morning for the Palace or Justice to submit it to the president of the Supreme Jucicial Council.

In the meantime, Shaykh Amin Nassar, Justices Furayhah and Daghir, and the Supreme Judicial Council members have assembled at the Palace of Justice.

Justice Munif 'Uwaydat told *Reuter* over the telephone this morning that he had decided to resign from his position as investigator in the case of the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and that he was heading to the Palace of Justice to tender his resignation to the Supreme Judicial Council. He declined to go into detail, but did say that his resignation was final and would be submitted in writing.

Letter of Resignation

NC201410 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 20 Jun 87

["Text" of the letter of resignation submitted by Magistrate Munif 'Uwaydat to the Supreme Judicial Council on 20 June — read by announcer]

[Text] Munif 'Uwaydat, the public prosecutor of the Beirut Court of Appeals, has the honor to submit the following:

At 0100 on the day after the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, his excellency the minister of justice contacted me and told me that he had agreed with his excellency the [acting] prime minister that the Karami assassination case should be referred to the Judicial Council and that I was to be charged with the judicial investigations.

This news came as a shock to me in view of the risks involved. No human being, including myself, can be expected to take such risks. I would have liked to refuse, but my sense of national duty and discipline made me accept the risk and, indeed, the challenge.

The file [on the assassination case] was referred to me on Wednesday, 9 June 1987 [date as heard]. I began the investigations on the morning of the following day, and continued them for 3 days and nights. First I worked out a three-phase program, and then I began to deal with all the points. The first phase, which was the most important one, was completed before I received the findings of the military investigating committee, set up by the Army Command, at 1030 on Wednesday, 17 June 1987. I embarked on the second phase by instructing the commanders of the security services in the country to clarify certain specific points, which could not be elucidated otherwise. As soon as I started work, certain media began disseminating statements casting doubt on my integrity. I have been and continue to be most eager to keep the investigations secret. When the integrity of the judicial investigator is impugned in this way, he has no alternative but to resign, because the matter is much more important than he or any other individual is. I wish to reassure everyone, in the name of God, that I have not met with any procrastination or obstruction. Indeed, I encountered every encouragement to uncover the criminals, whoever they may be. I am also very proud to be able to reassure everyone that I have done my duty loyally. I call on all to take note of the Koranic verse: If a wicked person brings you any news, ascertain the truth. For these reasons I give you notice of my resignation from the post of judicial investigator into this case.

'Uwaydat Resigns After 'Threats'

NC210720 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Magistrate Munif 'Uwaydat's resignation as judicial investigator proves yet again that the regime and its supporters are trying to obstruct the investigation into the case of martyred Prime Minister Rashid Karami's assassination.

Certain reports have revealed the causes which compelled 'Uwaydat to resign. They state that when 'Uwaydat went to Adma Air Base, he heard harsh words from some officers and soldiers whom he had summoned for interrogation. The reports add that Colonel Harb and Colonel al-Saylati refused to appear before him to give testimony. At the same time, Lieutenant Colonel George Shahwan, officer in charge of military security at the base, said 'Uwaydat could gather all the information he wanted from Director of Military Intelligence Colonel Simon Qassis.

The reports state further that the judicial investigator informed the higher authorities of what had happened, contacting the Army Command personnel and other influential figures, who promised him their cooperation. He had also counted on Amin al-Jumayyil's statement that he would see the investigation through until the very end and that no one was being protected. Al-Jumayyil had also said that he would bring forward anyone required to give testimony to the investigator. However, nothing of the sort happened. [passage omitted] Judge 'Uwaydat also received harsh threats from the Army Intelligence Branch and the Phalangist Forces after he learned a number of names. Afterwards, the attempt to cover up the issue became evident when Amin al-Jumayyil set up the 15-million-pound farce. [passage omitted]

Council Accepts Resignation

NC221120 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1054 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The Supreme Judicial Council held a special session this morning to consider the resignation of Justice Munif 'Uwaydat. The council approved the resignation and asked the justice minister to propose a new judicial investigator.

Birri Appoints New Investigator

NC221236 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] After accepting Justice Munif 'Uwaydat's resignation and after consulting with the Supreme Judicial Council, Minister of Justice Attorney Nabih Birri decided to appoint Justice Walid Ghamrah as judicial investigator in the case of martyred Prime Minister Rashid Karami's assassination.

Junblatt Replaces PSP Secretary General

NC211725 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] In view of the current circumstances, which demand intensive activity, PSP Leader Walid Junblatt has announced that the job of party secretary general is to be given to another party comrade. This will enable Comrade Anwar al-Fatayri to devote himself to the tasks and efforts necessary to step up party activity. After his consultations with the Executive Committee of the civil administration, Junblatt has also decided to make Comrade Yasir Haydar attorney general in the department headed by Comrade Hisham Nasir al-Din. This has been dictated by the same reasons and circumstances that led to the replacement of the secretary general. Following these decisions, the party will hold an extraordinary general meeting to discuss further appointments to be made with a view to developing party institutions.

'Umar Karami, Delegation Return From Syria

NC211908 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Statement by 'Umar Karami, brother of late Prime Minister Rashid Karami, followed by remarks in response to a question by an unidentified correspondent on his return from Damascus with a delegation from Tripoli on 21 June — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Karami] [Passage ommited] During our meeting with President al-Asad he affirmed that the Lebanese issue is the concern of all Arabs and that he will confront the plot against it with all his power until he has thwarted it. He also said that the assassination was a political crime and the response to it must be the unification of all nationalist forces to deal with the criminals and their backers. We thanked the president for his goodwill and wished him success and long life.

[Correspondent] Mr Karami, there have been attempts to make an issue of investigator 'Uwaydat's resignation and to blame it on some of your statements, according to certain media.

[Karami] We had urged Mr 'Uwaydat to speed up the investigation and not procrastinate. His statement, however, made it clear that he had been subjected to some threats. Anyone reviewing his statement will indeed believe that threats were made against him. In view of the dimension of the crime and the public interest in it, I asked the investigator to speed up his investigation, even if this entailed working night and day. I do not think that this request prompted his resignation.

Ba'th Party Official Residence Attacked, 3 Killed

NC192008 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] According to security reports, gunmen attacked the residence of 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbas, deputy regional secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization, in Qasqas, West Beirut, 3 days ago. A clash ensued with the bodyguards of 'Abbas in which three of them were killed and another was wounded. The reports noted that the attackers sought to take revenge for the Fathallah Barracks operation in which the Syrians killed 23 Hizballah members.

Syrians Release Islamic Unification Leader

NC221153 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Syrian authorities have released Shaykh Hashim Minqarah, one of the leading figures of the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli.
Minqarah returned to his residence yesterday, escorted by a number of Iranian Revolutionary Guards.

It should be noted that Hashim Minqarah was the target of an assassination attempt in Tripoli's Al-Mina' area at an earlier date. The Syrians later pursued him in the Al-Dinniyah hills, arrested him, and took him to Damascus.

Lebanese Physicians Leave To Treat Al-Asad

NC201139 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1135 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has fallen ill and that two Lebanese physicians have left for the Syrian capital to treat him.

Further Reports on Visit by USSR Parliamentarians

Ryuytel Holds Press Conference

JN190705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has praised the distinguished friendly relations between the USSR and Syria. He said that leaders Hafiz al-Asad and Mikhail Gorbachev had laid the basis of this relationship. Ryuytel made these remarks during a news conference at SANA headquarters today. Also present at the news conference were Shakir Sa'id, head of the Foreign Relations Committee at the People's Assembly; Dr Sabir Falhut; and a large number of press, radio, and television representatives. Ryuytel stressed that Syria is a main stronghold of struggle on the road to progress, democracy, and freedom. Comrade Ryuytel pointed out that the meetings which the friendly Soviet delegation had with Syrian officials were distinguished by a full understanding of all the current international issues.

Meanwhile, TASS Director General Sergey Losev stressed that Syrian-Soviet relations are firm and based on mutual respect. He pointed out that the Soviet Union extends aid to Syria to reinforce its defensive capabilities, and he noted that it will continue to extend such aid. In this way, the Syrian defensive capability will be able to confront all forms of Zionist and imperialist pressures and extortion. Losev said that views were identical on the issue of holding an international conference to solve the Middle East crisis. He indicated that Washington and Tel Aviv are trying to use this conference to peddle unilateral deals similar to Camp David. He warned against the imminent danger that will emanate from the U.S. intention to supply the Zionist entity with the raw materials needed to produce nuclear weapons after Israel refused to place its nuclear installations under the IAEA's supervision.

At the end of the press conference, Losev expressed his appreciation and pride in the Syrian Arab people. He wished them further happiness, progress, and success in all tasks and in political and economic affairs.

Ryuytel Makes Statement, Departs

JN191500 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Damascus at 1300 today. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, People's Assembly bureau members, some heads of committees, People's Assembly members, SANA Director General Dr Sabir Falhut, and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus and embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, Ryuytel expressed his and the delegation's pleasure with this visit and their profound appreciation of the welcome accorded to them. He added: We held useful and fruitful talks with the People's Assembly. We discussed the Middle East in particular and the international situation in general. Our talks on these topics yielded identical views.

Ryuytel said: This visit confirmed the determination of the Arab people in Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, to continue along the road of progress to develop Syria and to continue struggling against imperialist and Zionist plots and machinations.

He stressed the need to develop relations between the two friendly countries on various levels. Ryuytel indicated that this development will reinforce the two countries' struggle against imperialist and Zionist forces. He said that it would also foil the plots of the enemies of progress and just peace. Ryuytel expressed his appreciation and admiration for the progress he and his comrades had observed during their brief visit to Syria. He added: We also became closely acquainted with the militant conditions under which the Syrian Arab people are living and the wise and courageous policy they are following under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership.

In conclusion, he thanked the People's Assembly and Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi for allowing the delegation to pay this visit which was fruitful and useful to both friendly countries and peoples.

Iraq-Syria Accord Discussed

JN201943 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
19 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned from diplomatic Arab sources in London that Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, who visited Damascus 2 days ago, held lengthy discussions with Syrian officials on the issue of Iraqi-Syrian reconciliation. These sources added that the Soviet official had informed the Syrian leadership of the need to achieve such reconciliation. He stressed that his country is pinning great hopes on the success of this step.

The sources said that the Soviets are eager to achieve reconciliation between Baghdad and Damascus. This eagerness is due to the Kremlin's conviction that such reconciliation would greatly contribute to resolving the Middle East's most important problems; namely, the Iraq-Iran war and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

These sources affirmed that achieving reconciliation will expedite the convocation of the awaited Arab summit. At this summit, a unified and effective Arab stand on a peaceful settlement in the Middle East will be proposed. Moreover, the existing relations

between Syria and Iran mean that the convocation of the summit would draw up the outline for an end to the Gulf war.

More Reportage on Visit by Soviet Economic Team

Documents Signed With USSR

JN190742 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — Two documents for economic and technical cooperation were signed between the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR in Damascus yesterday evening. The first document contains the bases of cooperation to build the hydroelectric Tishrin Dam on the Euphrates River. The second document contains the ninth protocol of the meetings of the permanent Syrian-USSR Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

Both documents were signed for Syria by Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs, and for the USSR by Comrade Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and head of the USSR side to the permanent Syrian-USSR committee. The heads of the two delegations exchanged cordial speeches after the documents were signed. They asserted that the signing of these documents will effectively contribute to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

As *Syrian Arab News Agency* correspondent has learned that the ninth protocol of the permanent Syrian-USSR committee includes the procedures and recommendations which should be made by the two sides' corporations to implement the cooperation projects in the fields of energy, irrigation, oil, gas, phosphates, transportation, training of Syrian cadres, and enhancement of trade exchanges. This session of talks is also characterized by the addition of new important projects to promote the Syrian economy and to bolster Syrian-USSR relations within the framework of the agreements reached between the leaders of the two friendly countries.

Soviet Delegation Departs

JN191405 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — The USSR delegation to the meetings of the permanent joint Syrian-USSR Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation headed by Comrade Konstantin Katushev, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, left Damascus for Moscow this afternoon. Their departure followed a 5-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. Katushev headed the Soviet side to meetings of the ninth session of the permanent Syrian-USSR committee in Damascus. These meetings resulted in new agreements designed to further enhance and develop bilateral economic and technical cooperation.

Comrade Katushev and his accompanying delegation were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs and head of the Syrian Arab side to the meetings of the permanent Syrian-USSR committee. Also on hand to see him off at the airport were members of the Syrian side to the committee meetings, Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Aleksandr Dzasokhov, and Soviet Embassy staff.

In a predeparture statement to SANA, Comrade Katushev expressed satisfaction with the positive and fruitful results achieved at the meetings of the permanent Syrian- USSR committee. He also praised the success that these meetings had achieved in all fields. He said that this was made possible by the successful visit which His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad had paid to Moscow in April, by the talks he had held with CPSU General Secretary Comrade Gorbachev, and by the agreements reached to further develop bilateral cooperation.

Comrade Katushev added: Because of all this we reached agreements on new cooperation projects, especially on building the Tishrin hydroelectric complex and on cooperation in oil. This does not include other aspects of bilateral cooperation in economic and industrial fields. He went on to say: We succeeded in shaping the agreements reached by both countries' leaders. He added: Both the Syrian and Soviet sides will work to implement these agreements in the best possible way.

Comrade Katushev paid tribute to the efforts being exerted by the Syrian Arab side headed by Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs, and also to its contribution to the success of the meetings of the permanent Syrian-USSR committee. He also praised his meetings with governors and party and state officials whom he met during his tour of some of Syria's governorates. He expressed his thanks for the hospitality accorded to him wherever he went and also for the cordial and sincere feelings and sentiments with which he was received. He also said that he had sensed a genuine desire to enhance bilateral cooperation and friendship.

General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, received in his office this morning Comrade Konstantin Katushev, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, the participants discussed the ties of friendship and cooperation binding the two friendly states. They also reviewed ways to effectively enhance them. The purpose of this enhancement is to support the national economy and to reinforce Syria's steadfastness in the face of conspiracies. Imperialism and Zionism are hatching these plots against the Arab nation. Major General 'Awwad Bagh, deputy defense minister, and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus also attended the meeting.

Najibullah, Keshtmand Attend Post-Plenum Meetings

LD210638 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0421 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 20, *Bakhtar* — Party and state leaders participate at gatherings and meetings which are being held in support of the decisions taken by the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on June 10.

The general secretary of the PDPA CC, Najib, participated at the gathering of party activists of the chief of staff of the Defence Ministry. Speaking at the gathering, Najib said that frustration of evil efforts against the process of national reconciliation and the subversive activities of extremist elements, the elimination of irreconcilable bands, removal of depots, bases, and caravans of weapons and confident shielding of the DRA's borders with Pakistan and Iran are the duties set forth before the Armed Forces of the country. Approving a resolution, the gathering declared its full and firm support to the decisions made by the plenum.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, participated at a meeting held by the party activists of the Academy of Sarandoy (people's militias). Speaking at the meeting, S.A. Keshtmand talked about the decisions of the plenum and replied to the questions raised about the international support given to the policy of national reconciliation, how the multi-party system will be created in the country, etc.

The decisions adopted at the plenum of the PDPA CC on June 10 have been supported during the gatherings held by the people in different parts of the country. Tens of hundreds of inhabitants of Samangan Province expressed their support to these decisions after they performed Friday praying in Aibak congregational mosque. The prayers expressed their intentions to work jointly for the implementation of these decisions. Party provincial committees have also convened their plenums to determine particularly the directions of party activities in line with the decisions of the plenum of the PDPA Central Committee.

Politburo members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee had participated at the work of the plenums of party provincial committees. The participants of the gatherings and settings hold in high esteem the decisions of the plenum for the fulfillment of the undelayable tasks in the present socio-political, economic and military conditions.

Najibullah Tours Balkh Province, Discusses Plenum

LD220613 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0421 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 21, *Bakhtar* — Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, met with the workers, peasants, elders and people's deputies in Mazar-e Sharif, centre Balkh Province. The party general secretary after visiting the shrine of 'Ali, fourth caliph of Islam, participated in a gathering of the inhabitants of Mazar-e Sharif.

While talking about further realization of the policy of national reconciliation and putting an end to war and fratricide, Najib said that the question of a coalition administration and its need at present conditions in the Afghan society has been discussed in the plenum of the PDPA CC held on June 10. Practical steps are being taken for the cause of peace and tranquillity and many instances of such a coalition administration are seen in practice in Balkh and Kaldar Districts of this province. Fruitful results have been obtained in this regard which marks the commencement of coalition administration from the beneath [as received] of the society and manifests the people's tendency towards this process, the general secretary pointed out.

Addressing the gathering of the workers and the toiling peoples of Jeyretan city (border city) held in support of the decisions of the June plenum of the PDPA CC he called upon them to fulfill their missions not only in the economic field but also take active part in the process of national reconciliation. Significant steps have been taken forward for the continuation of the policy of national reconciliation aimed at ensuring peace and the realisation of people's aspirations. Najib recalled that these steps are: Formation of a coalition system of administration provision of opportunities for creation of peasantry and Islamic parties, drafting of DRA Constitution and other important measures taken in socio-economic spheres for the implementation of national reconciliation and establishing peace in Afghanistan. Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, has also visited the historic district of Balkh which is known as Umul Bilad, the mother of cities. During his visit to Balkh District Najib had meetings with people and talked over their problems.

Najib, general secretary of the party Central Committee, after visiting different sections of Balkh textile mill has also participated in that gathering of the workers and employees of the mill. Addressing the audience, Najib said you are the owners of this factory, thus it is necessary to work for its improvement, removal of the causes of backwardness and shortcomings in the factory and strictly observance of the discipline at your work collective". [quotation marks as received]

Najib, also took part at party activists meeting in Mazar-e Sharif which was convened to determine their responsibilities in line with the decisions of the PDPA CC plenum held June 10. The general secretary of the party explained the basic facet of the plenum's decisions to the party activists. He said the national reconciliation has been converted to a real practice of millions of people. "We are realists, no intention to hurry forward. This characteristic helps us to notice the very first results of the policy of national reconciliation, that is, the return of 60 thousand emigrants and giving up of subversive activities by 25 thousand armed men. [quotation marks as received]

'Abdol Ghani and 'Abdol Rahim, workers of the Hindu Kush construction unit, and 'Aziz, a peasant, have also expressed their conceptions from the policy of national reconciliation on behalf of party primary organisation of Mazar-e Sharif. They stressed upon firm intention of party organisations to fulfil their missions to this end. General Secretary of the PDPA CC, Najib and his companions returned to Kabul after visiting different parts of the province and meeting local inhabitants.

Reportage on Visit of Soviet Education Delegation

Delegation Arrives, Meets Ghiasi

LD192025 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] A high-ranking Soviet delegation led by Anatoliy Dumachev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, met with Burhan Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education, and other members of that ministry this afternoon. The talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, centered on Soviet aid to the DRA's vocational and technical education system.

Anatoliy Dumachev and his accompanying delegation from the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education arrived in Kabul this morning in response to an invitation from the DRA Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education.

Burhan Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education; the deputy minister of that ministry; Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador extraordinary of the Soviet Union to the DRA; and a number of embassy staff welcomed the delegation at Kabul International Airport.

Meets With Keshtmand

LD202009 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, met with Comrade Anatoliy Dumachev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, at the Council of Ministers building this morning.

Comrade Dumachev and his accompanying delegation arrived in the DRA recently on a friendly, working visit.

Present at the meeting from the Afghan side were Comrades 'Abdol Hamid Mohtat, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Burhan Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education. Representing the Soviets were Comrades Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA; [name indistinct], deputy economic counsellor of the USSR Embassy in the DRA; and members of the Soviet delegation.

During the meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on the further expansion of Soviet-Afghan cooperation in technical education and in training (?national) cadres. [passage omitted]

Received by Najibullah

LD220427 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, received Anatoliy Dumachev, head of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, and his accompanying delegation at the party Central Committee headquarters this afternoon. A friendly and cordial climate prevailed during the talks.

The meeting was also attended by Burhan Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education; Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA; and the members of the delegation. Views were exchanged on ways to expand cooperation between the two friendly countries, the USSR and the DRA, in the area of technical and vocational education and the training of DRA national cadres.

Education Protocol Signed

LD220437 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, participated in a ceremony for the signing of a protocol on economic, technical, and vocational education cooperation between the DRA and the USSR this afternoon.

The protocol was signed by Burhan Ghiasi, minister of higher and vocational education, and by Anatoliy Dumachev, head of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

'Abdol Hamid Mohtat, vice-chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Najibullah Masir, minister of mines and industry; Raz Mohammad Paktin, minister of electrical energy; Gholam Jialani Karger, head of administrative affairs of the Council of Ministers; and a number of high-ranking state officials in our country were also present at the signing of this protocol.

Attending on behalf of the Soviets were: Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA; [name indistinct], deputy economic counsellor of the USSR Embassy in the DRA; and members of the guest delegation.

According to another report, Anatoliy Dumachev and his accompanying delegation took part in a reception in their honor at the Council of Ministers this evening hosted by Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

Gandhi To Visit Moscow, Hold Talks With Gorbachev

BK200100 Hong Kong AFP in English
0006 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] New Delhi, June 19 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will visit Moscow on July 2 and discuss bilateral and international matters with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Friday. On his three-day official tour of the Soviet Union Mr. Gandhi will also jointly inaugurate with Mr. Gorbachev a cultural extravaganza called the Festival of India, PTI said.

The two leaders are scheduled to have two rounds of talks on issues of mutual interest, the news agency said. India and the Soviet Union are bound by treaties of cooperation and friendship.

Further Reportage, Comment on Haryana Election

Gandhi Congratulates Opposition

BK200850 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has congratulated Mr Devi Lal [opposition Lok Dal leader] and his party on their victory in the Haryana elections. In his message he wished the new government, which is being sworn in today, all success in serving the people of the state.

Gandhi Cites Neglect

BK201633 Hong Kong AFP in English
1628 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] New Delhi, June 20 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi blamed party members Saturday for his ruling Congress (I)'s humiliating defeat in crucial elections in the northern Indian State of Haryana, news reports said.

Mr. Gandhi, who is also president of the Congress (I), accused party members of neglecting their constituencies and said that this was the cause of the electoral defeat Wednesday in Haryana State, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) said. "It is seen that congressmen become active only when the elections knock on the doors," Mr. Gandhi was quoted as telling party members at the tourist town of Simla, in the northern Province of Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) party won only five seats in Wednesday's balloting for the 90-member Haryana Legislature, while the main opposition alliance of the agrarian Lok Dal (Masses Party) and the Bharatiya Janata (Indian People's) Party, captured 73 seats. Virtually the entire state cabinet was wiped out, including the Chief Minister Bansi Lal, who lost to the Lok Dal by more than 2,000 votes in his home constituency of Tosham.

Mr. Gandhi, who announced an investigation in the Haryana rout, asked Congress (I) members to shun "urbanised politics" and identify themselves with rural India, a Congress (I) leader contacted by phone in Simla told *Agence France-Presse*. But the Congress (I) member added angrily: He (Mr. Gandhi) should bear responsibility for the humiliating defeat and should not blame us." Mr. Gandhi has often been blamed by party members for the erosion in the Congress (I) rural vote, once considered the main strength of the party. The latest setback for the 100-year-old Congress (I) Party means that it is now out of power in 11 of India's 25 states.

Bahuguna New Lok Dal President

BK191606 Delhi Domestic Service in English
530 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Mr H.N. Bahuguna has been elected president of the Lok Dal. This decision was unanimously taken at a joint meeting of the party central parliamentary board, national executive, state presidents and office-bearers, and Lok Dal legislators in New Delhi today. Announcing the decision to newsmen, the party leader, Mr Karpuri Thakur, said Mr Devi Lal, who could not be present, has also given his consent to this.

New Haryana Ministry Sworn In

BK201304 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] A six-member Haryana ministry headed by Mr Devi Lal has been sworn in. The governor, Mr S. M.H. Burney, administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr Devi Lal and five other members of the cabinet at a ceremony at Haryana Bhavan in New Delhi a short while ago. The other members of the cabinet are: Mr B.D. Gupta, Mr Virendra Singh, Professor Sampat Singh, Mr K.R. Punia -- all from Lok Dal, and Mr Suraj Bhan of Bhartiya Janata Party.

Mr Devi Lal came from the hospital for the swearing in ceremony. Earlier, Mr Devi Lal was elected leader of the Haryana Lok Dal Legislature Party at the meeting of the newly elected legislators. The party president, Mr H.N. Bahuguna, presided.

Defense Minister Addresses Troops in Outposts

BK191503 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, has said India will not yield an inch of its territory under any circumstances through threat or coercion. He said its forces are ready to meet any challenge from across the borders.

Mr Pant was addressing troops in different forward outposts in the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh today.

He said India wants peace and friendship with all its neighbors and reiterated that we shall remain fully committed to establishing more friendly relations with all.

The defense minister appreciated the courage and morale of the troops deployed in very difficult and remote mountainous areas of the eastern region.

Pakistan's Yaqub Khan Meets With Defense Minister
BK191614 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who represented Pakistan at the meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers, met the Indian defense minister, Mr K. C. Pant, in New Delhi today and reviewed the latest situation along the Indo-Pakistan border. It is understood that they discussed some confidence-building measures to prevent any tension on the border.

Sri Lanka's Hameed Says Airdrop Not To Affect Ties
BK191458 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The foreign minister of Sri Lanka, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, has said that India's mediatory role is indispensable in finding a permanent political solution to the ethnic problem in the island. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi today, he said India's offer of good offices is valid. He affirmed that the 19 December proposals would be the basis for future negotiations on the ethnic issue. He said India's airdropping of relief supplies over Jaffna will not affect bilateral relations.

Replying to a question about the reported move for a Sri Lanka-Pakistan defense pact, Mr Hameed said we are not seeking any defense pact or a treaty with anybody.

Tiwari, Sri Lankan Minister View 'Ethnic Problem'
BK191634 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, had a meeting with Mr Hameed [Sri Lankan foreign minister] in New Delhi this evening. The ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and other bilateral issues figured at their talks. The meeting lasted for about 30 minutes.

Supply Ship for Jaffna Tamils To Depart 24 Jun
BK211246 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] The first ship carrying relief supplies for the beleaguered Sri Lanka Tamils in Jaffna will sail from Madras on Wednesday [24 June]. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the ship will arrive at Madras from Port Blair tomorrow and will be loaded the next day. The supplies include rice, wheat, flour, sugar, and pulses, as well as medicines and kerosene.

Home Minister Invites Gurkha Front Leader To Talk
BK200918 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has invited the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] leader, Mr Subhasha Gheising, for talks in New Delhi regarding the problems of the Darjeeling Hill District.

Mr Buta Singh held discussions on the subject recently with the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, in Calcutta.

CPI-M Worker Killed; Offices Burned in Darjeeling
BK220332 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] A CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] worker was killed and another critically injured in the widespread violence and arson reported from the hill areas of Darjeeling with the GNLF [Gurka National Liberation Front] bundh [strike] entering the 3d day. The CPI-M workers were attacked by an armed group at Mission Hill tea estate in Kalimpong subdivision.

As already reported, the GNLF activists burned down a dozen government offices in several places in the three hill subdivisions and hurled bombs, damaging shops and houses yesterday.

They are also said to have sabotaged the district's main hydel [hydroelectric] power plant near Darjeeling. A number of persons have been arrested in connection with the violence. Police have recovered a large quantity of arms and ammunition besides bombs during raids.

One additional company of the Central Reserve Police Force has already reached Darjeeling and five others are on their way to help the district administration to deal firmly with the extremists who are trying to enforce their 13-day bundh.

Indefinite Curfew Imposed on Punjab's Tarn Taran
BK210957 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] In Punjab, two persons, including a terrorist, were killed and two injured in an encounter early this morning at the outskirts of Alachowr village on the (Nawashahar-Garshankar) route. The encounter took place when a police patrol rushed toward Derashirimahanta on hearing the sound of gunfire. The terrorists opened fire at the patrol. In the exchange, one terrorist was killed and another wounded.

According to police sources, the mahant of the Dera [priest of the Sikh temple] was also killed. An assistant subinspector [of police] was injured in the encounter.

A UNI report from Amritsar says the district authorities clamped curfew on Tarn Taran, a subdivisional town, this morning for an indefinite period.

According to official sources, a house-to-house search is on in the area to apprehend some terrorists who have been operating from Tarn Taran. The search has been jointly launched by the Punjab police and the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force].

Tehran Reports Iraqi Strike on Liberian Tanker

LD201058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that a Liberian tanker which was heading for Khark Island from Bandar-e 'Abbas was attacked by Iraqi aircraft this morning. According to reports, the Liberan tanker named (?*Tina City*) was hit by a missile at 0445 today about 60 miles from Bushehr harbor and 80 miles from Khark.

According to the reports, the Iraqi regime's radio announced the attack on the tanker in its 1030 news bulletin.

Musavi Cites Kuwaiti Role

LD201111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, in an exclusive interview with our correspondent at noon today in connection with the attack on a Liberian tanker by the Zionist regime's aircraft, said: We would like to draw the world's attention to the fact that the 1-month calm in the Persian Gulf has once again been broken by the Iraqi regime. Following this provocative move, insecurity in the Persian Gulf will greatly intensify. It is the Iraqi regime that should be castigated for this move and for its consequences.

The prime minister continued: Based on evidence we have at our disposal, this morning's attack took place with the help of facilities provided by Kuwait. We had prior information that the Iraqi and Kuwaiti regimes made contacts aimed at resuming such attacks in order to pave the way for America's presence in the region. The evidence available proves that the Kuwaiti regime does not need security, and the purpose of its propaganda clamor is simply to drag the United States into the Persian Gulf, involving it in the imposed war. However, everyone should know that we will hurl crushing blows against America's military prestige in the region.

IRGC Navy Commander Warns Kuwait of Blockade

LD211858 Tehran IRNA in English 1842 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Bushehr, June 21, IRNA — Commander of the Naval forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Hoseyn 'Ala'i warned Kuwait Sunday that his forces alone are capable of imposing a naval blockade on that sheykhdom.

'Ala'i, who is in Bushehr to form the second naval zone of the IRGC, disclosed that Kuwait has recently put the Sabiyah waterway, between the Bubiyan Island and Kuwait Port, at the disposal of the Baghdad regime to reinforce Al-Bakr jetty.

"We cannot ignore these obvious military collaborations," warned 'Ala'i, adding that if the Americans tried to interfere in the Persian Gulf Iran is confident of mopping them up.

'Ala'i strongly deplored the sinister collaboration of Kuwait with the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and cited the use of Kuwaiti air facilities by Iraqi warplanes and helicopters as further acts of mischief. The U.S. will not gain anything by escorting Kuwaiti tankers in the Persian Gulf, he warned.

Concerning the Iraqi Navy, 'Ala'i said that its presence has been effectively limited to Al-Bakr jetty and has no importance in military equations.

Strait of Hormuz Reportedly in Missile Range

LD191807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Fifty battalions of the self-sacrificing forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from Khalij-e Fars Province, having assembled today along the Persian Gulf coasts, declared their readiness to confront any aggression launched by global arrogance in the region. [passage omitted]

The deputy commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Navy spoke of the selfless devotion and relentless fighting capacity of the mobilization personnel, which the superpowers fear.

Referring to conspiracies by global arrogance in the Persian Gulf, the deputy commander said: If we so desire, each mobilization fighter could navigate a vessel, which in turn could destroy a warship. You know that the entire Strait of Hormuz comes within our missile range; the American people must not be misled by that country's rulers. [passage omitted]

Rajavi Announces Formation of Clandestine Army

AU201509 Rome ANSA in English 0810 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] (ANSA) Rome — The Iranian opposition movement Mojahedin of the people intends to form a clandestine regular army structure at home and set up staging bases outside the country on the western border with Iraq and the eastern border with Pakistan, a Mojahedin spokesman said in Rome Friday.

The secretary of the movement's international department, Nader Rafinejad [spelling as received], discussed these developments here as Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi announced the formation of a regular army organization in a statement made in Baghdad.

Rafinejad said he had no detailed information on a report published by a Lebanese daily on the transfer of Western hostages held in Lebanon, including the Americans, to Tehran. "My organization is investigating this but the transfer may have taken place", the secretary of the international department said.

Referring to Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, Rafinejad said that, "anything can be expected from Khomeyni. And, in recent times, the Iranian regime has taken its terrorism beyond the Iranian borders. Sufficient to recall the case of two Italians arrested in Bandar-e 'Abbas and still in prison and the kidnap of a British diplomat".

The spokesman confirmed that Tehran has already taken possession of Chinese-made missiles given the name Silkworm. "At this time, as far as we know they have not been deployed", he said.

Returning to the content of the announcement delivered in Baghdad, Rafinejad said that the Mojahedin's army will be named "the Iranian National Liberation Army" and will have no liaison with Baghdad troops. "We will limit ourselves to signalling our movements to avoid shooting at each other by mistake".

He went on to explain that the Iraqi Army's fundamental duty is the defense of national territory whereas the Mojahedin's troops "will have a totally offensive purpose, that of overthrowing the Khomeyni regime". These troops intend to engage essentially in tactical warfare "against the Iranian Pasdaran" while the clandestine army inside Iran will carry out duties of urban warfare and insurrection.

Declining to discuss the strength of the Mojahedin army, the spokesman remarked, "I can only say that at present there are some 10,000 fighters in training for a two-month period in Western (Iraqi) bases".

Reportage on Iranian Officials' Visit to Syria

Iravani Meets USSR's Katushev

LD191720 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA — Irano-Soviet ministers of commerce, Mohammad Javad Iravani [title as received] and Konstantin Katushev reviewed in a meeting in Damascus on Thursday various parts of a letter of understanding signed between the two countries. The two sides expressed readiness to further expand trade and economic relations between Tehran and Moscow.

Katushev said that his country would like to increase its economic relations with Iran within the framework of the good neighborly relations.

Finance Minister on Talks

LD201541 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] At the conclusion of joint commission talks in Damascus, Commerce Minister Abedi-Ja'fari and Economy and Finance Minister Iravani have returned to Tehran from Damascus.

Economy and Finance Minister Iravani, in an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent, said: Discussions at the joint Iran-Syria commission held in Damascus in three separate commissions on trade, technological and industrial cooperation, and economic and banking cooperation, resulted in the signing of a protocol of understanding between the two sides. The protcol of understanding was signed by Commerce Minister Abedi-Ja'fari for Iran, and for Syria by Al-Imadi, the economy and foreign trade minister.

On the outcome of the commission's economic and banking cooperation discussions, Iravani said: A joint financial organization will be set up by the two countries to expand industry and agriculture by implementing joint projects.

In the field of tourism, according to the protocol, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic agreed to set up visiting and pilgrimage tours during the Hajj pilgrimage. According to the same agreements, the Islamic Republic of Iran will purchase or build hotels in Syria to accommodate Iranian Hajj pilgrims. Banking services by the National Bank of Iran in Syria will be expanded to provide banking services for the Iranian pilgrims. The two sides will also set up a company to expand joint cooperation in the insurance field.

The two countries' authorities discussed bilateral financial relations and will proceed with all agreed upon investment projects from the funds owed to Iran by Syria -- subject to the protection of foreign investment laws in the host country. During a recent visit of a Syrian delegation to Tehran, a contract was signed to deliver Iranian oil to Syria.

Khamene'i Chairs Cabinet Meeting 21 Jun

LD210936 Tehran IRNA in English 0931 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA — The cabinet ministers met here Sunday presided over by President 'Ali Khamene'i and attended by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi. During the session reports on recent trip of the premier to Turkey and that of a high-ranking Iranian delegation to Syria were presented.

Latest domestic and international issues including the recent development in Al-Shariqah, and the Iraqi attack on a Liberian oil tanker in the Persian Gulf were discussed.

Fighting With Iraq Continues on All Fronts

Communique No 2,872

LD191629 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA — Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched 13 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Thursday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying cargo for Iraq, said a military communique here Friday.

The 2872d joint staff communique said that Muslim forces of Iran reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in two northwestern and western fronts yesterday, killing or wounding several enemy soldiers and destroying some gun emplacements, three vehicles and one munitions dumps of theirs.

An undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements and observation posts together with one vehicle were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts in artillery duels with Iranian gendarmerie forces yesterday.

Iranian artillery fire heavily pounded Iraqi positions throughout the fronts especially Khushk and Bubiyan, southern fronts, Thursday, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy troops and setting ablaze several of their gun emplacements, vehicles, armoured personnel carriers and munitions dumps.

Armoured units of Iranian Muslim combatants silenced Iraqi tank fire and damaged at least 10 enemy tanks in Helaleh and east of Basra yesterday.

Iraqi relocation activities in the Kani-Sheykh Heights and movement of enemy vehicle columns in northern Hawr-Hawizah were checked by Iranian artillery fire Thursday when nine enemy vehicles were badly damaged.

Artillery fire of Iran's Muslim forces prevented Iraqi engineering units from setting up embankments in areas overlooking Hoseyniyeh, southern fronts, yesterday.

An Iraqi patrol convoy attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar, western fronts, late Wednesday, was forced to flee when shelled by Iranian artillery fire, the communique concluded.

Mujahidin Deployed to Gulf

LD191727 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 19 Jun 87

["Iraqi Mojahedin Battalion Off to Fronts" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA — An Iraqi mojahedin departed for Iraqi imposed war fronts Friday to fight Ba'thist troops. [sentence as received] Another group of Iraqi mojahedin will shortly leave here for combat operations at the Persian Gulf. The report said that Iraqi mojahedin will join the defenders of the Persian Gulf over the next few days to combat the great satan's (the U.S.) conspiracies.

Communique No 2,873

LD201706 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA — Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected eight cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but found no Iraq-destined cargo aboard them, said a military communique here Saturday.

Communique number 2873 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that an undetermined number of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded and four enemy munitions dumps together with one vehicle were set ablaze in parts of the fronts of Iraqi-imposed war Friday when hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian patrol convoys successfully carried out intelligence-gathering missions throughout the fronts yesterday. A patrol convoy discovered and seized several light and heavy Iraqi weapons in Marivan, northwestern fronts.

In parts of the southern fronts Friday, Iranian Gendarmerie forces continued their artillery duels with Iraqi troops, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying at least 10 gun emplacements and a command jeep of theirs.

Elsewhere throughout the fronts, Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses which included the destruction of several vehicles, armoured personnel carriers and munitions dumps in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants Friday.

Iranian forces shelled Iraqi armoured units moving in Nahr 'Anbar yesterday inflicting heavy losses in men and equipment on enemy troops.

Artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants prevented Iraqi engineering units from setting up barbed-wire fences and fortifying their positions around Hoseyniyeh, southern fronts Friday.

New Operation in Al-Sulaymaniyah

LD210959 Tehran IRNA in English 0944 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA — The Muslim combatants of Iran launched a fresh operations on heights overlooking Mawut in Sulaymaniyah Province of Iraq, Sunday morning. Reports from western operational region said that in the latest operations the Muslim forces took over Zazilah and Gulan Heights and are now in control of Mawut.

Iraqi Artillery Battalion Hit

LD211516 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses when the artillery battalion center of eastern Al-Sulaymaniyah, located in northwestern Sayyid Sadiq, was attacked by commandos of 'Zafar' Brigade 75 of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and Peshmergas of the Iraqi Socialist Party (Al-Sulaymaniyah branch) in the early hours of June 20.

According to Ramadan Headquarters at least 50 Iraqi forces were killed and six 130 mm guns, two anti-aircraft batteries and a command jeep of the enemy were destroyed. A considerable number of light and heavy weapons were also seized intact by Muslim combatants of Iran during the two-hour hit-and-run clash. Four Iraqi POWs were transfered behind the fronts in the liberated regions. Commander of the Iraqi battalion is also among the killed.

The destroyed Iraqi battalion was in charge of shelling the city of Marivan (in Iran's Kordestan Province) and Iraqi town of Zour [placename as received] (N.E. Iraq) which is up in arms against the Ba'thist regime. Muslim combatants of Iran returned to their bases safely after carrying out their mission.

Communique No 2,874

LD211521 Tehran IRNA in English 1513 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA — Iran's Navy intercepted seven oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, but allowed

them to continue voyage since they had no Iraqi-bound cargo aboard, said a military communique here Sunday.

Communique Number 2874 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that Muslim combatants of Iran continued strengthening their defence positions in the southern fronts, especially in the "Nasr-3" operational theatre. Iranian Muslim forces inflicted heavy casualties and damage on Iraqi forces in the said region, it added.

The Muslim combatants also brought movements of Iraqi armoured vehicle columns to a halt in the "Nasr-3" operational scene in southeast Iraq. Movements of some supply columns of the Iraqi forces were also halted in Faqqeh, Zobeydah and Chazabeh operational regions, added the communique.

The communique said the Muslim combatants heavily shelled Iraqi units stationed in the western and northwestern fronts. Iranian patrol units inflicted casualties and damage on the enemy forces in the said operational regions during their successful missions, it added.

Iran's gendarmerie forces killed or wounded some Iraqi troops in the southern fronts destroying over 15 gun emplacements and observation posts as well as three light and heavy vehicles of the enemy forces, said the communique.

Some Ba'thist forces were killed and injured and two munitions dumps as well as several light and heavy vehicles of theirs were set ablaze when the Muslim combatants shelled Iraqi positions in Hajj 'Umran operational region (n.w. fronts), it added.

In the Sumar region (w. front), the communique said, an Iraqi patrol unit was forced to flee, sustaining casualties. Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses in the region opposite Mehran Saturday when the Muslim combatants subjected enemy vehicle movements to their artillery fire, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Plane Downed in 'Nasr-4'

LD211626 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] "Nasr-4" operational region, June 21, IRNA — An Iraqi plane was shot down by Iran's anti-aircraft fire in this operational region at 18:43 local time (15:13 GMT) today. The fate of the plane's pilot was not immediately known.

2,000 Iraqi Casualties

LD211631 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Western Operational Region, June 21, IRNA — Over 2,000 Iraqi forces have so far been killed or wounded since the start of the "Nasr-4" operations launched by the Muslim combatants of Iran inside northeastern Iraq Sunday morning. Enemy corpses litter the region. There are many officers and non-commissioned officers among the slain Iraqi soldiers.

According to last reports from the fronts Iraqi Infantry Brigade 603 has been surrounded by the Muslim combatants in the "Nasr-4"operational theatre. The besieged Iraqi brigade has been demolished by 60 percent, said the reports.

Iranian military officials have hailed "Nasr-4" as a crushing answer to the recent Iraqi crime of attacking trade ships and oil tankers in the Persian Gulf and also the air raid on villages around Baneh and Sardasht cities, Western Iran.

Iraqi Officers Captured

LD211642 Tehran IRNA in English 1602 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Western Operational Region, June 21, IRNA — Of the Iraqi soldiers taken captive in the "Nasr-4" operations launched this morning some 200 have so far been transferred behind the fronts. The Muslim combatants launched the operations north of Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, northeastern Iraq dealing heavy blows to the enemy forces.

Thousands of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded in the operations launched by the special mountain units which have trapped and isolated groups of Iraqi forces in rugged heights of the area. The Muslim forces are pressing towards the Iraqi town of Mawut which they presently overlook.

Among the POWs are two high-ranking Iraqi commanders identified as Colonel Falih Khuribat commander of Brigade 443, and Lieutenant Colonel Majid Jasim Nasar al-Talabi commander of Battalion 3 of brigade 443 [names, titles as received].

Strategic Height 'Liberated'

LD211701 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] "Nasr-4" operational region, June 21, IRNA — The strategic height of Aspi Darah in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, northeastern has been liberated by Muslim combatants of Iran. Reports reaching from Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters say more than 20 kms. of Iraqi territory in northern Al-Sulaymaniyah Province has been liberated during these operations.

The Muslim combatants after liberating these heights are pressing towards the town of Mawut and have taken control of access routes leading to that town. According to the latest report, heavy fighting is raging around Mawut.

Besides destroying 14 Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers and 38 heavy and light vehicles the Muslim combatants have seized intact 10 Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers and 16 heavy and light vehicles from the enemy.

Iraqi Brigade 'Totally Smashed'

LD211711 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] "Nasr-4" operational region, June 21, IRNA — Iraqi Infantry Brigade 443 of the 27th division was totally smashed during the liberation of the strategic Zazilah Height in the early hours of the "Nasr-4" operations launched Sunday morning in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province. Heavy fighting now continues

on the Aspi Darah Height with Muslim combatants holding the upper hand.

'Roundup' of 'Nasr-4' Operations

LD211821 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 21 Jun 87

["War-'Nasr-4' (Roundup)" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA — The ground forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps [IRGC] launched "Nasr-4" operations in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province at 02:00 hours local time Sunday (22:30 GMT Saturday) killing or wounding 2,000 Iraqi troops and taking 195 POWs. A number of ranking commanders as well as officers and NCOs are among the POWs.

A military communique released by the Khatem ol-Anbiya' joint Army-IRGC HQ. today, said 20 sq. kms of Iraqi territory was liberated during the operations, including two strategic heights, "Zazilah" and "Aspi Darah". It said the Iranian forces had walked 25 kms before succeeding in liberating these areas.

The communique said all roads leading to the Iraqi town of Mawut have been blocked by Iran's Muslim combatants and that heavy fighting was raging between the two sides near the town. It also said 27 enemy tanks and personnel carriers as well as heavy and light vehicles were destroyed by heavy Iranian artillery and anti-armoured fire.

Heavy anti-aircraft fire of the air force also shot down an intruding Iraqi plane over the operational theater at 18:43 (15:13 GMT) today, the communique said.

It said the operations code-named "Ya Imam Ja'far Sadeq" (a Shi'ite imam) was in retaliation of Iraq's resumption of attacks on commercial ships in the Persian Gulf as well as its recent raids on two Iranian border Kurdish towns (Baneh and Sardasht). It also aimed at liberating heights and connection routes in the region and facilitating the struggle of Muslim Kurdish people of Iraq against the Baghdad regime.

The communique said Iranian troops deployed special guerrilla warfare tactics and after passing through arduous mountains, inflicted heavy blows and losses on the Ba'thist enemy.

Infantry Brigade 443 of 27th Division was destroyed 100 percent, and Infantry Brigade 603 sustained 60 percent damage, the communique concluded.

Two Iraqi Warplanes Downed

LD221516 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 22, IRNA — Two Iraqi warplanes were shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire north of Panjwin just a few kilometers west of Iran-Iraq border in Iraq at 10:47 GMT Monday bringing to three the number of Iraqi warplanes downed since the start of the "Nasr-4" operations at midnight Saturday, said Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters today. Khatem ol-Anbiya' is the joint headquarters of Iran's Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Clandestine Radio on Musavi's Possible Dismissal

TA191745 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kavyani Banner of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpt] It is being said in Tehran political circles that Mir Hoseyn Musavi will be dismissed shortly and the post of prime minister in Khomeyni's regime will be assigned to another subservient element. It has been noted in this connection that dissolution of the Islamic Republican Party not only did not strengthen the position of Mir Hoseyn Musavi and his government, but has left him on the verge of leaving the Islamic regime's political scene.

Our co-strugglers report from Tehran that the latest rumor is that Musavi's government will be replaced shortly and a new government installed. Individuals who are being mentioned these days as the regime's future prime minister are: Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati; Sadeq Tabataba'i; Hasan Habibi, the minister of justice; and even Engineer Sahabi and Engineer Mehdi Bazargan. According to informed sources the possibility that Mehdi Bazargan will be appointed as prime minister is very slim, particularly as 'Ali Akbar Velayati enjoys the support of a number of the regime's powerful rulers. [passage omitted]

Reportage, Comment on Visit of PRC's Zhao Ziyang

Junejo Interviewed on Visit

BK211004 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that the government and people of Pakistan are eagerly waiting to welcome the Chinese prime minister. In an exclusive interview with the *Xinhua News Agency*, *People's Daily*, *Guangming Daily*, and *Economic Daily* in Rawalpindi, the prime minister affirmed that relations between the two countries today are not only on a governmental level, but on a people-to-people level as well. Whenever a Chinese leader visits, he added, both the Pakistani Government and the Pakistani people show their love and respect for the leaders and people of China.

The prime minister recalled that his first trip abroad after assuming office was to China in view of the extremely good relations with that country. He said that wherever he went in China, he noted the Chinese people's deep love for Pakistan. They welcomed him, as the prime minister of Pakistan, by waving in the streets.

Mohammad Khan Junejo noted that the two countries have extremely good relations and he is confident that these ties will continue to develop in the future. The prime minister said that China has always supported Pakistan's ideas and has sympathetically understood all the issues it faces.

Responding to a question on Afghanistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo stated that during the last Geneva talks, Pakistan had called on the Soviet Union to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan within 7 months. He voiced his hope that in the next round of talks a better formula for the withdrawal schedule will be found and agreed upon.

Referring to regional cooperation, the prime minister said that SAARC leaders can meet within 2 days and hold talks on bilateral issues. Whatever relations and differences they have, they can overcome their problems by holding negotiations outside the conference hall. Thus, issues can be solved more speedily than by diplomatic means. [passage omitted]

Commentary on 'Model Relationship'

BK201714 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Safdar Ahad commentary]

[Text] Relations between Pakistan and China are a model relationship. These are rooted deep in history distinguished by mutual understanding and respect and have developed steadily from the very beginning. China has been described as the best friend, pillar of security, and cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy by Pakistani leaders. China and its great people on their part have never faltered or wavered in going more than half way in reciprocating the sentiments and regards the government and the people of this country have for their Chinese brothers. Whether in the field of politics or in the evaluation of the burning issues facing the international scene, as well as in economic, commercial, industrial and scientific fields, both countries hold similar views.

The distinguishing feature of Pakistan-China relations is the frequent high-level contacts between the two countries. This is manifest once again in the visit of Mr Zhao Ziyang, prime minister of China, to Pakistan, who is arriving in Islamabad tomorrow afternoon. Close relations between them are firmly based on the common interests of the two countries in promoting just and durable peace in the region and upholding the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, national independence, noninterference in each other's affairs, and peaceful coexistence. The two countries have all along been closely cooperating with each other on the international plank. Soon after Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo assumed the office of prime minister of Pakistan, China was the first country which extended an invitation to him for an official visit. In the true spirit which reflects relations between the two neighbors, Mohammad Khan Junejo selected China for his first official visit abroad.

Discussions between Mr Zhao Ziyang and Prime Minister Junejo in Islamabad are expected to center around on how best to foster still closer bilateral relations. Naturally, when the two leaders meet to exchange views on the problems of the region, international issues and measures to safeguard international peace and security would come up for discussion. The two leaders will have in-depth discussions, though perceptions of the two countries on major issues are the same. The aides will concentrate on specifics to forge, and give greater dimension to, their relationship in trade, commerce, industry, and science and technology. Commercial exchanges between them had contributed to mutual benefit. Over the years, China has made special efforts to ensure that trade was balanced and equitable. The two countries are engaged in efforts to identify new items which can be beneficial [words indistinct] and increase the two-way volume of trade.

It is noteworthy that there are hardly few countries in the world which have such a model relationship. This is, no doubt, an ideal example of how nations with different systems can exist as friendly neighbors [words indistinct] cooperation and relationship which remains undisturbed by international stresses and strain. China has always given Pakistan necessary political and financial support and upholds its stand on the Afghanistan issue. Mr Zhao Ziyang's visit, therefore, would give further strength and vigor to the relationship between Pakistan and China.

Zhao Ziyang's Arrival Statement

BK211329 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] The Chinese prime minister, Zhao Ziyang, was accorded an impressive and (?warm) welcome when he arrived in Islamabad a short while ago on a 4-day official visit to Pakistan at the invitation of the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. The entire airport was [words indistinct] with welcome slogans as the distinguished guest came out of his plane. The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, was the first to shake hands with him, and the two leaders embraced each other. A 19-gun salute

boomed out and a large number of people, including students at the airport raised slogans of Pak-China Friendship Zindabad [Long Live], Premier Zhao Ziyang Zindabad, and Prime Minister Junejo Zindabad.

In a statement at the airport, Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang expressed his confidence that his visit will surely contribute to further development of good-neighborly and friendly relations between Pakistan and China. He said the Sino-Pakistan friendship and cooperation is the keen desire of the two peoples. It is not only beneficial for the development of our two countries but is also conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in this region.

Exchanges Views With Junejo

BK211726 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo met with the Chinese prime minister in Islamabad this evening. They exchanged views informally on several matters including bilateral relations. Formal talks between the two leaders will be held tomorrow.

Formal Talks Open in Rawalpindi

BK220828 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, and the Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, had formal talks in Rawalpindi this morning. The talks, which lasted nearly 3 hours, were held in a cordial atmosphere. The two leaders had a comprehensive exchange of perspectives on the global and the regional environment, particularly on ways of strengthening bilateral cooperation for the further development of their relations in the political and economic fields.

The Chinese prime minister appreciated the warm welcome accorded to him by the people and government of Pakistan on his arrival in Islamabad yesterday. Prime Minister Junejo observed that the enthusiastic reception was the natural outcome of the high regard of the people of Pakistan for China's continued friendship and support to this country. Prime Minister Zhao warmly praised the internal and external achievements of the elected Government of Pakistan under the leadership of Prime Minister Junejo.

It was agreed that a Pakistani team would shortly visit China for talks on expansion of bilateral trade. The Chinese side expressed its readiness for import of pig iron, steel, (?bromide), and quantities of rice from Pakistan, while China is expected to place an order for the construction of one or two cargo ships at the Karachi shipyard.

Prime Minister Zhao informed Prime Minister Junejo of China's decision to provide Pakistan 100-million-yuan interest-free loan equivalent to $27 million for financing development projects in Pakistan. This gesture of China's cooperation and support was appreciated by Prime Minister Junejo.

Prime Minister Junejo was assisted at the talks by the Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Prime Minister Zhao by the vice foreign minister, Mr Qian Qichen.

More on Junejo-Zhao Ziyang Talks

BK221118 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, and the Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, held formal talks in Rawalpindi this morning. They had a comprehensive exchange of perspectives on ways to consolidate bilateral cooperation between Pakistan and China in political as well as economic fields.

Briefing newsmen on the talks, an official spokesman said the meeting, which lasted nearly 3 hours, was held in a cordial atmosphere.

The Chinese prime minister praised the achievements of the elected government under the leadership of Prime Minister Junejo.

The Pakistan prime minister expressed appreciation for the outstanding role of China in promoting international peace and security in conformity with the principles of sovereign equality.

The two leaders recognized the need for resolving international issues which constitute obstacles to normalization and stability. The Afghanistan and Kampuchean issues figured prominently at the talks. Both Pakistan and China resolutely support the demand for withdrawal of foreign forces from these countries and restoration of their sovereignty and independence.

The economic delegations of the two countries also held a separate meeting. Radio Pakistan's representative says the prime ministers of Pakistan and China are expected to have an informal meeting this evening to be followed by a banquet being given by Prime Minister Junejo in honor of his Chinese counterpart.

Troops Summoned To Quell Ethnic Riots in Karachi

BK201551 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] In Pakistan, troops have been called in to Karachi to maintain law and order in the riot-torn areas. The death toll in the latest ethnic violence between the Pakhtoons and Mohajirs has reached four.

Residents told newsmen that they welcomed the troops and felt secure for the first time after 3 days of unrest.

Government Protests Gandhi 'Flippancy' Remark

BK201135 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Sri Lanka has protested to India over a news item in which Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has accused Sri Lanka of flippancy. The report which appeared in *The Island* newspaper of yesterday was based on an interview given to the magazine *India Today* by Mr Gandhi.

The acting minister of foreign affairs, Mr Tyronne Fernando, summoned the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, to protest about the news item yesterday. The protest challenged anyone to produce evidence of an occasion on which the Sri Lanka Government went back on its word or gave occasions to such remarks.

Mr Fernando also said that Sri Lanka has for almost 2 and 1/2 years been talking with representatives of the Indian Government and the Tamil United Liberation Front. Except at Thimpu, where the terrorist leaders walked out of the talks, on all other occasions they had refused to attend negotiations but had made use of this period to obtain and build up large quantities of arms, ammunition, and explosives.

The acting foreign minister noted that Sri Lanka need not resort to any subterfuge to build up its military strength which is the right of every independent country. This becomes specially important when democratic freedom has been threatened. The Sri Lanka Government has received the information that the LTTE leaders are threatening to kill any candidates who come forward on any party ticket to contest the local government elections in the Batticaloa and Amparai Districts.

India Reportedly To Persuade Tamils To Hold Talks

BK201155 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] According to Foreign Affairs Minister Shahul Hameed, India has made a new commitment to do its best to persuade Tamil separatists to hold peace talks with the Sri Lanka Government. Mr Hameed told reporters at the end of a 2-day SAARC ministerial meeting in New Delhi that he had talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, External Affairs Minister Narain Dutt Tiwari, and Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh outside the conference, and Mr Gandhi had indicated that they should move as fast as possible as it was important not to allow bilateral relations to deteriorate.

Mr Hameed also said that the first ship in a new Indian relief operation for the Tamils of Jaffna would sail on Wednesday from Madras with about 400 [metric] tons of rice, sugar, cloth, edible oil, and milk powder. The modalities of the distribution of the relief supplies have been worked out between Indian and Sri Lankan officials. Further aid will be sent after India assessed the situation.

Mr Hameed is due to return home today after the SAARC foreign ministers' meeting which also decided on joint measures to fight terrorism in the region.

Amnesty International Makes Torture Accusation

BK211054 Hong Kong AFP in English
1030 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] London, June 22 (AFP) -- The Amnesty International human rights organisation on Monday said it was concerned about the fate of Tamil detainees in Sri Lanka and accused Sri Lankan forces of having "routinely resorted to torture."

In a report released here Monday, Amnesty "urgently" called on the Sri Lankan authorities to investigate reports that several hundred Tamil detainees "disappeared" after their arrest.

More than 500 Tamil prisoners disappeared over the past 30 months, Amnesty said, adding it had detailed information about 216 cases concerning mainly youths whom witnesses said had been kidnapped by special police in eastern Sri Lanka.

Amnesty stressed that its information on disappearances was not up to date because relatives of disappeared people often wait for several months before reporting their case.

It also called on the Colombo government to hold an impartial and independent inquiry into reports that detainees had been mistreated.

"We have strong reason to believe that many have been tortured," Amnesty said, "and there have been consistent reports of extra-judicial killings."

Athulathmudali Dismisses Charges

BK201159 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] A political solution to the conflict in Sri Lanka is possible if the moderate majority of the Tamil population could control the radical separatist elements.

Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali told newsmen in London yesterday that an increasing majority of the Jaffna Peninsula were tired of violence and wanted peace.

Commenting on the government's package of proposals to find a solution to the ethnic crisis, the minister pointed out that while government is talking about devolution of power, the separatist groups are talking about a separate state.

Mr Athulathmudali also dismissed allegations of torture made by Amnesty International, saying that political detainees are being kept under conditions equal to and often better than ordinary criminals.